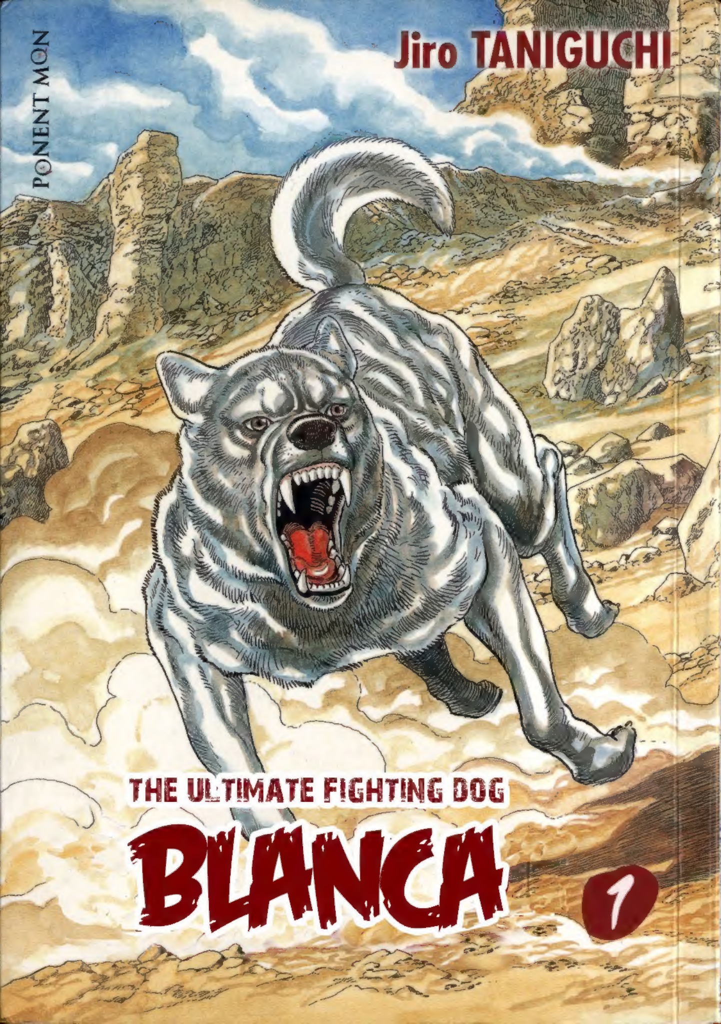
PONENT MON
Jiro TANIGUCHI
THE ULTIMATE FIGHTING DOG
BLANCA
1

MAKO
TRANSLATES...

THE ULTIMATE FIGHTING DOG
BLANCA

Jiro TANIGUCHI

PONENT MON

THE ULTIMATE FIGHTING DOG

BLANCA

Vol.1

THIS IS AN UNOFFICAL ENGLISH TRANSLATION.
TRANSLATED BY
MAKO OF GINGASCANS/GINGABOARD

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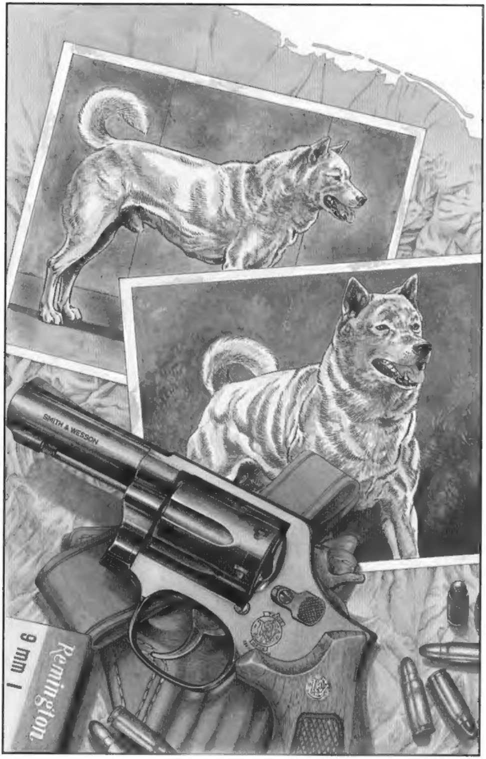
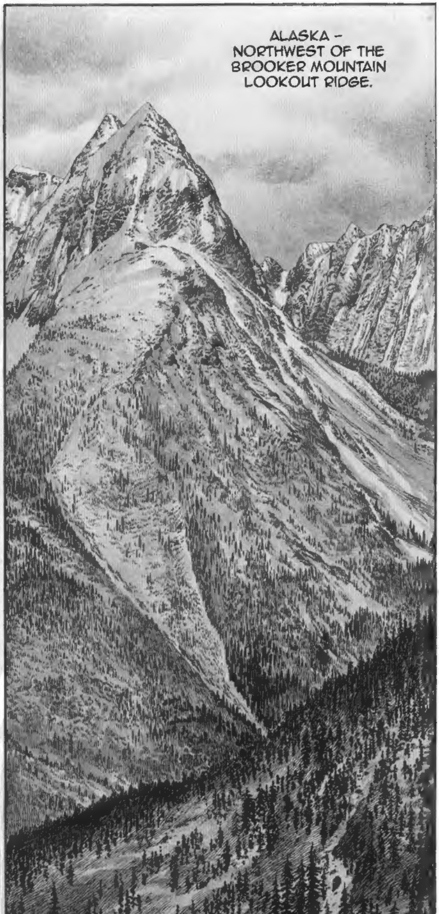


DOG OF THE TUNDRA

THE ARTIC POLAR CIRCLE: WINTER
A WHITE DOG CROSSES THE BERING STRAIT TO THE WESTERN COAST OF ALASKA.

WHAT DISTANCE HAS IT TRAVELLED TO GET HERE?
WORN AND DIRTY, HIS WHITE FUR WAS NOW GREY.
HUF
HUF
HUF... HUF...
HE RUNS TIRELESSLY FOR THE ICY TUNDRA.
STEEL MUSCLES MOVE WITH RHYTHM AND ENERGY. HIS BREATHING UNLABORED.


ALASKA - NORTHWEST OF THE BROOKER MOUNTAIN LOOKOUT RIDGE.

MBAA!
PAN
GOTCHA!
HA HA HA...
I THINK WE'RE GONNA GET A GOOD PRICE.
INCREDIBLE! WHAT AN ANIMAL!
THIS WAS A CAREFUL SHOT.

HEY! LOOK AT THAT BIRD!
...
MUST HAVE SEEN SOMETHING ON THE GROUND.
SOME ANIMAL.
MAYBE WE'LL GET A SURPRISE.
LEAVE IT, DICK; WE'VE GOT OUR KILL.
LET'S HEAD OUT!
WE'D BETTER GET BACK TO CAMP BEFORE DARK.
DON'T TALK LIKE AN IDIOT!
WE'VE BEEN LUCKY TODAY! C'MON, WHAT'LL IT COST US?

...
HM?!
BAH... JUST WOLVES.
CHECK OUT THOSE ANTLERS. VERY IMPRESSIVE.
IT'D BE GREAT - IF ONLY WE COULD TAKE THE HEAD...
THE WHITE ONE.
...
DON'T RUSH SO MUCH.
THERE'S A DOG IN THE PACK.

GO...
OF COURSE IT'S NOT A WOLF - BUT WHO CARES?
...
DOESN'T MATTER.
NOTHING UNUSUAL ABOUT A WILD DOG WITH WOLVES.
REMEMBER "THE CALL OF THE WILD" BY JACK LONDON? JUST LIKE THAT.
WHAT ARE YOU DOING, DICK?!
WHAT DO YOU THINK? I'M GONNA MAKE THEM RUN.
MAKE 'EM RUN AWAY WITH THEIR TAILS BETWEEN THEIR LEGS.
DON'T!

YOU SCARED?! HAHAHA! CAREFUL, TRY NOT TO PISS YOUR PANTS!
I'M JUST SAYING IT'S BETTER TO WAIT A BIT. I DON'T KNOW WHY, BUT I'VE GOT A BAD FEELING ABOUT THIS.
NOW YOU WANT TO STAY HERE UNTIL IT'S DARK?!
WE HAVE TO WAIT UNTIL THEY LEAVE IT ALONE.
YOU'RE WEAK.
DON'T YOU THINK THAT'S TOO FEW WOLVES TO TAKE DOWN AN ANIMAL THAT BIG?
DICK, THINK ABOUT IT, MAN.
BULLSHIT!
AND YOU C ONSIDER YOURSELF A HUNTING COLLEAGUE?!
MOREOVER, IT LONG AGO NOTED OUR PRESENCE, AND HASN'T MOVED....
I DOUBT IT. I THINK THERE'S ANOTHER REASON.
AND I THINK IT'S THAT DOG THAT'S GIVING ME A BAD FEELING...

DON'T SHOOT!
I'LL TAKE HIM FIRST AND SEND THE OTHERS RUNNING!
PAN
PLOF

PAN
UGH!

CRAC
!!!
TAP
BOM
AHH
...
PLASH
OOOH!
PLAF

GRRRRRR

THANKS FOR THIS.
NEAR MOUNT ARABA, HARDLY ANYTHING WORTHY.
OH, HOW'S IT BEEN?
WE GOT A LITTLE...
WE ONLY GOT THIS BECAUSE OF A TRAP...
DON'T GET TOO DOWN.
IN SPRING, EVERYTHING WILL CHANGE AND HUNTING WILL BE ANOTHER STORY.

NOT WITH THE RANGERS LASHING EVERYONE...
NOT TAKING MUCH?
ANYWAY, I DON'T THINK THE RANGERS ARE GOING TO COME SNOOPING AROUND HERE AT ANY TIME.
FORGET IT. WE DISCOVERED THIS HIDEAWAY.
SHIT ...
IS IT POSSIBLE THAT...
UM ...
HEY!
CAN YOU HEAR ME?!
SOMEONE'S COMING.
THEY ARE?
!

SHIBA!
UUHH ...
I'M DYING OF COLD.
ARE YOU HURT?!
WHERE'S DICK?!
!!
PLAF
HEY! C'MON! YOU'RE SAFE!
DICK... IS DEAD...
THAT... WAS NOT... ANY DOG....
I TOLD HIM NOT TO SHOOT... I WARNED HIM...
THE DOG WAS WITH A WOLF PACK... PURE WHITE...
WHY DOES THAT MATTER?

NG
MAIL
HOTEL
BLANCA...
HAMBURGER
WHALE
THIS IS THE DOG?
YEAH, NOT A PLEASANT MISSION, BUT... IT'S A JOB.
BUT...WHAT THE HELL ARE WE SUPPOSED TO USE TO CATCH THIS DOG?
THE TRUTH IS... I DON'T KNOW.
IT'S A DIRECT ORDER FROM MY SUPERIOR.
DON'T COMPLAIN.
POF
DON'T TELL ME...
HEHE.. I MEAN, TO SIT HERE PLAYING DETECTIVE...

REALLY? THE DOG IS?
FHHHH
...
IT'S... RELATED TO SOME OF OUR COUNTRY'S MILITARY SRCRETS.
THE THING IS...
THE QUESTION IS, WHERE IS IT GOING?
SO... WEHRE ARE WE SUPPOSED TO START?
BROOKS
FIRST WE HAVE TO CONTACT THOSE THAT HAVE SEEN IT.
ANYWAY, IT'S A DOG. IF WE GET ON ITS TRACK, IT WON'T BE THAT HARD TO CORNER.
AIASKAN
YOU GET INFORMATION FROM THIS COASTLINE. I'LL GATHER INFORMATION FROM THE AREA OF THE BROOKS MOUNTAIN RANGE.
IF IT'S CROSSED THE BERING STRAIT, IT WILL HAVE PASSED INTO AN AREA KNOWN AS THE NORTHERN PENINSULA OF SEWARD.
IF IT'S ALIVE, OF COURSE.

OH, YES. I KNOW THIS DOG.
IT WAS... A MARVELOUS DOG, WITH THE GAZE OF AN EAGLE.
THANK YOU.
WHY DON'T YOU TELL ME EVERYTHING YOU KNOW ABOUT HIM?
THIS WAS A FEW DAYS AGO.
I WAS OUT SEARCHING FOR WALRUS TRACKS...
...
HIS EYES...I CAN'T FORGET THAT LOOK. UNTIL THEN, I'D NEVER SEEN A DOG SO PROUD.

!!
GRR RRR...

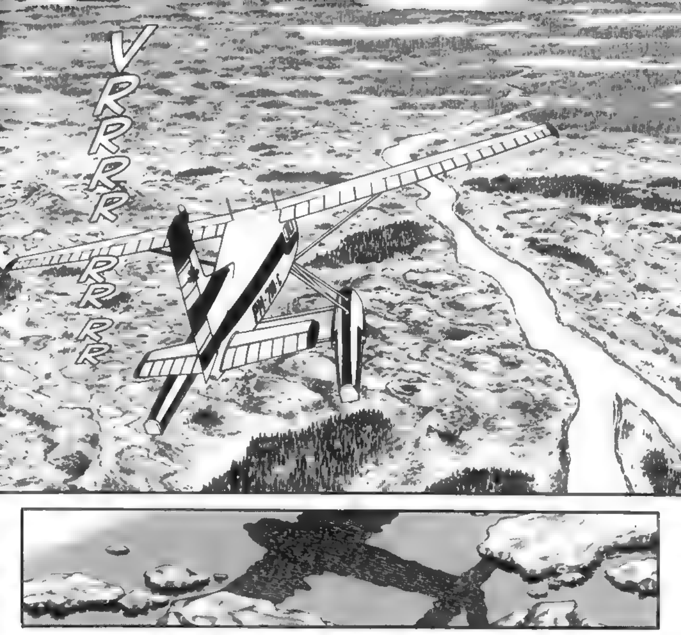
IT WAS LIKE WITNISSING A MIRACLE.
I DIDN'T THINK THERE WAS A DOG IN THE WORLD CAPABLE OF TAKING DOWN A POLAR BEAR ALONE...
GRRR BRRR...
GRRR
HE LOOKED HUNGRY... AND IMMEDIATELY BEGAN DEVOURING THE BEAR MEAT.
I APPROACHED SLOWLY.
A DOG'S EYES DO NOT LIE. HE WAS A WILD DOG.

I WANTED TO TRY TO GET TO KNOW HIM.
AND WHERE IS HE NOW?
I'M AFRAID HE'S NOT HERE ANY MORE...
TOO HARD...
HE'S SURELY GONE EAST. TO THE MOUNTAINS.
FHHH FHHHH
AT THE TIME, IT OCCURED TO ME... PERHAPS HE HOPED FOR A HOME BEYOND THE MOUNTAINS.
...
IT SEEKS ITS OWNER?
WELL, MORE OR LESS.
IF YOU FIND THAT IT HAS CUBS... WILL YOU SEND ME ONE?
YEAH, RIGHT. I WILL.

IN THE ICY TUNDRA OF THE FAR NORTH, HUNGRY WOLVES ROAM AIMLESSLY, LOOKING FOR SUSTENANCE.
THE WHITE DOG WILL LEAD THE PACK OF WOLVES.
BLANCA... THE DOG PURSUED.
GUIDED TO THE EAST BY THE ARID LAND AND THE MIDNIGHT SUN...

2

WHITE FANG


VRRRRRRRR
SPLASH

VIGILANTES?
WHO...?
UNCLEAR. WE'LL KNOW SOON ENOUGH...
IT'S A PLANE...
LANDED IN THE LAKE...
WHO'S THE OTHER ONE?
HEY CRAIG...
WHAT NOW?

WE WEREN'T EXPECTING ANYONE TODAY...
I'VE COME TO OFFER YOU A HIGH-PAYING JOB.
MY NAME IS EDDIE FIGUEROA.
I'M LOOKING FOR INFORMATION CONCERNING THIS DOG.
...AND TO ASK YOU TO KILL HIM AS YOU SEE FIT.
I DON'T UNDERSTAND.
HELL YES!
...

...
I'VE BEEN IN CONTACT WITH POACHERS LIKE YOU.
OR PRECISELY WHY...
AT THE MOMENT, I CAN'T TELL YOU ANY MORE...
THE REWARD IS ONE HUNDRED THOUSAND DOLLARS.
ONE HUNDRED THOUSAND!!
I'VE PREPARED FIFTY THOUSAND IN ADVANCE. YOU'LL GET THE REST WHEN I SEE THE BODY.
OOF.
I HAVE NO WORDS.
A HUNDRED THOUSAND TO BAG A MUTT?!
DO WE ACCEPT?
WHADDAYA SAY?
NO... I DON'T GET IT.
IT SEEMS LIKE TOO MUCH MONEY FOR A DOG.

OKAY, I ACCEPT!
...
HEY, RIGHT NOW WE'RE ALMOST RECREATIONAL HUNTERS. SEEMS LIKE A BARGAIN.
BUT HEY... WHY ALL THE FROWNING?
...
YOU TOO, YAK?
WHAT ELSE CAN I SAY?
AS I SAID...
WELL... THE TRUTH IS, WE HAVE NOT LIVED HONEST LIVES.
APPARENTLY, IT WAS WITH A PACK OF WOLVES.
IT KILLED DICK.
WHAT DID YOU SAY?! WHERE?!
PAF
THIS DOG...
ISN'T IT THE ONE THAT SHIBA SAW?

HE'S HEADED EAST TOWARDS THE BROOKS MOUNTAINS. I MAY WANT TO GO TO CANADA....
I UNDERSTAND... AND THOUGHT SO.
...
NO DOUBT IT'S THAT DOG! GO FOR IT!
I WILL PROVIDE YOUR WEAPONRY. IT MUST BE KILLED!
YOU SHALL HAVE IT. I'LL PUT IN FOR IT NOW.
COULD YOU LEND US A HELICOPTER?
AN AIR SEARCH WILL BE FASTER AND EASIER.
FINALLY, I WANT YOU TO CONSIDER THIS... THIS DOG HAS QUALITIES FAR BEYOND THOSE OF A "NORMAL" ANIMAL...
FYUUUUUUU

VRRRRR
HOW ARE YOU?
I'M RECOVERING.
!!
WANT SOME SKYWAGON WINE?
LOOK AT THIS.
...

HE MADE AN OFFER WE COULDN'T REFUSE.
WHAT?!
YOU DIDN'T ACCEPT, DID YOU?!
DID YOU THINK WE WOULD WE IGNORE IT?
THE MAN WHO WAS HERE...
WANTS US TO KILL IT.
OF COURSE I DID! LET ME WARN YOU, YOU'LL ALL DIE!
I SAW THAT DOG KILL DICK WITH MY OWN EYES. THAT ANIMAL IS COMPLETELY ABNORMAL.
YAK ...
I BELIEVE YOU.
BUT I DON'T WANT TO BE TAKEN AS A COWARD BY THE OTHERS.
IN MY LIFE, I'D NEVER FELT SO BAD - LIKE I WAS SCARED STIFF. THAT DOG IS A BEAST.
THINK ABOUT IT, YAK! YOU'VE GOTTA BELIEVE ME!
...

GRRRR
GRRR
FRRRR

GRROUAH
CRAC
RRR-RR...
TAP
RRR-RRRR...
BOUM

LOOK! A PACK OF WOLVES!
MOTHER OF GOD! THERE ARE AT LEAST TWENTY OR THIRTY OF THEM!
BADA BADA BADA
THAT? DO YOU SEE THE DOG DESCRIBED?
GO CHECK ON IT!
BADA BADA

POSITION IS 68 40' LATITUDE NORTH; 156 30' WEST. TARGET IS HEADING WEST-NORTHWEST.
I SEE IT! THE WHITE DOG IS LEADING THE PACK!
FOLLOW IT! DON'T LOSE SIGHT!
WE'LL ATTACK FROM THE WEST!
DON'T LET THEM GET INTO THE FOREST! HERD THEM INTO GOD VALLEY!
WE'LL TAKE THEM DOWN IN THE BLINK OF AN EYE!
RECEIVED!

COLONEL! K-LL70 IS REPORTING URGENT NEWS FROM SITKA!
THE OBJECTIVE IS IN SIGHT AT 68 40' LATITUDE NORTH; 156 30' LONGITUDE WEST.
RIGHT NOW, 770 IS IN PURSUIT, ALONG WITH SEVERAL HUNTERS.
OF COURSE, IT'S AS I IMAGINED. IT'S CROSSED THE STRAIT.

IS IT REALLY IMPOSSIBLE TO CAPTURE ALIVE?
DEFINITELY A SHAME TO KILL IT.
WHAT A SHAME ...
BECAUSE IT'S IN ALASKA, WE CAN'T DIRECTLY INTERVENE. IF IT WERE IN OUR COUNTRY....
YES...
WE HAVE NO CHOICE BUT TO LEAVE IT TO THE OFFICE OF INFORMATION. THEY HAVE ORDERS TO SHOOT ON SIGHT.
HAVE YOU REVEALED THE DETAILS ABOUT BLANCA?
NO... I DIDN'T THINK IT WAS NECESSARY...

PAN PAN

TA TA TA TA TA TA
UUAAAH!
TA
TA
TA
TA
TA
OUAH!
HOW IS THIS POSSIBLE?! HE'S SO FAST THAT THE BULLETS AREN'T TOUCHING HIM!
THEIR MOVEMENTS ARE ABNORMAL!

BADA BADA BADA BADA BADA
HAHAHA! IDIOTS! GO TO HELL, DEVIL DOGS!
A DOG IS A DOG! NOTHING SPECIAL!
TO HELL WITH YOU!
PAN

EH?!
OH!
THEY'VE JUMPED!

HEY! DON'T DO ANYTHING STUPID! THE TURBULENCE WILL SMASH YOU AGAINST THE ROCKS!
SHUUUUUUU
PLOUF
FRRR

DID IT LIVE?
LOOK CLOSELY... WHY DO YOU THINK THEY CALL THIS GOD VALLEY?
NOT EVEN A SPECIAL DOG COULD SURVIVE A HEADLONG FALL DOWN THERE.
EVEN ON THE REMOTE CHANCE THAT IT DID SURVIVE, THE INJURIES IT SUFFERED WILL BE GRAVE.
IT'LL DIE ANYWAY ....
WE JUST NEED TO RECOVER THE BODY.
TOMORROW MORNING, WE'LL GO DOWN TO THE BOTTOM OF THE CANYON.
WE'LL CAMP HERE TONIGHT.
TOMORROW, WE'LL KNOW THAT EVERYTHING WENT OFF WITHOUT A HITCH.
...

SHIBA CAN REST EASY NOW...
EASIER THAN I EXPECTED.
NOT BAD.
TWENTY THOUSAND APIECE...
THE DOG IS STILL ALIVE.
...
WHAT'S BUGGIN' YOU, YAK? CHEER UP, MAN.
THAT'S NOT TRUE! SHIBA'S NOT A COWARD!
THAT'S SOMETHING ...
HEHE...NOW THAT YOU MENTION IT, THE TWO ARE OF THE SAME RACE...
HA HA HA... I SEE YOU'VE CAUGHT SHIBA'S COWARDICE.
LOOK AT THIS GUY...

SOMETHING'S THERE!
IT'S COMING!
WHERE?!
WHAT?!
I DON'T SEE ANYTHING...

...
!!
AAAH!
WHAT IS..?!
CRAC
GRRRRRR
TA TA TA TA
GODDAMN MONSTER!
OH!

SPLASH
PAF
AH ...
UAH!
SPLASH
AH...
WHERE IS IT?!

TA TA
TA TA
TA TA
UAAAAH
AAAH...
SPLASH

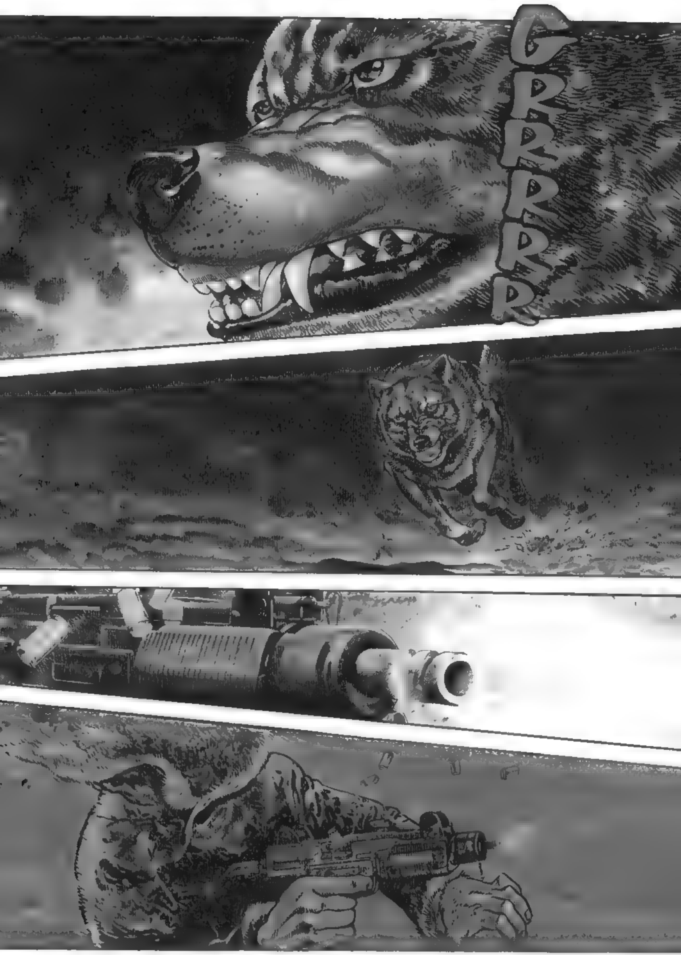
MOTHER OF GOD...
WAKE UP, YAK! IT'S ME, SHIBA!
S..SHIBA...
UUH...
YAK!

...
YOU WERE RIGHT ...
YOU'RE SAFE NOW!
THE OLD STORIES WE WERE TOLD...
THE DOG... IS AN EVIL SPIRIT... THE SON OF THE NIGHTMARE WHITE FANG...
!!
OKAY, STOP TALKING.
DON'T MOVE.

FYUUUU UUU
PERHAPS AN EVIL SPIRIT REVIVED BY A SORCERER?
WHAT THE HELL ARE YOU?!
THE NORTHERN LIGHTS SHONE ABOVE THE DEATH AND BLOOD. HIS INSTINCTS GUIDED HIM TO THE ALSKAN BORDER, BEYOND THE BROOKS MOUNTAINS.
BLANCA, THE DOG PURSUED.

3

THE MALIGNANT SPIRIT


GRRRRR

GRRR
BOM
SPLASH
AH!
UAAHG!

AUGH!
!
UUAGH!

UUUAAAAGGH!!
OOOH
...
AH
AH
AAAHH!
WHAT HAPPENED, YAK?!
NO, NO, IT'S NOT NECESSARY. HE JUST HAD A NIGHTMARE.
WHAT'S WRONG?!
DO YOU WANT ME TO CALL THE NURSE?
YAK
...

ANYWAY, YOU'RE LUCKY.
IT SEMS INCREDIBLE THAT YOU SURVIVED.
...
I'M NOT SURPRISED.
IT WAS THAT SAME NIGHTMARE. SINCE THAT DAY, I DREAM IT OVER AND OVER...
AH
AH
I WANT TO ASK YOU SOMETHING.
WHAT?
WE'RE FRIENDS, RIGHT? AND YOU BELIEVE ME?
SHIBA ...
...
IF THE INUIT LEGEND OF THE WHITE DOG IS TRUE... IT IS THE 'TORNAIT'.
THAT DOG IS POSSESSED BY THE 'TORNAIT'.
WHAT'S UP WITH YOU?

IT COMES FROM THE NORTH SEA
AYA-YA AYA-YA
HOWLING TO THE BEAT OF THE DRUMS
AYA-YA AYA-YA
THE VENEGEFUL SPIRIT MOST FEARED BY THE INUIT...
WE HUNT ALL LIVING THINGS. WE HAVE TAKEN MANY LIVES IN OUR TRAVELS.
LEGEND HAS IT THAT ONCE EVERY SEVEN YEARS...
AOUUUH
OUUUH
THE SPIRITS OF THOSE WE HAVE SLAIN ATTACK US IN THE FORM OF A WHITE DOG...

AYA-YA AYA-YA
HIS WHITE FANGS STRIP AWAY
THE SOULS OF THE INUIT
AYA-YA
THE 'TORNAIT' CONTROLS SLED DOGS, AND LURES THEM INTO THE SEA, TO DIE OF COLD.
THEN DEVOURS THE SOULS OF THE PEOPLE...
AYA-YA AYA-YA
MADNESS OVERFLOWS HIS GAZE,
AND NOTHING AND NOBODY CAN CONTAIN IT
AYA-YA
ALL WE CAN DO IS PRAY TO 'INUA', THE SPIRIT WHO LIVES IN NATURE...

IF THE PRAYERS OF 'ANGAKOK' ARE UNABLE TO SOOTHE THE 'SILA'....
WE HAVE TO KILL THE WHITE DOG, BECAUSE IF NOT....HE WILL ANNIHILATE US.... AND END EVERYTHING...
AYA-YA HOWLING TO THE BEAT OF THE DRUMS AYA-YA
AYA-YA AYA-YA HE CROSSES THE NORTH SEA, CHASING SHADOWS AYA-YA
NOT THAT I BELIEVE THIS STORY WITH MY WHOLE HEART..
BUT AFTER HAVING SEEN WITH MY OWN TWO EYES THE FEROCITY OF THE BEAST...
I CAN'T HELP BUT THINK THAT IT MAY REALLY BE THE 'TORNAIT'.

IT'S FOR THE INUIT...
...
KILL HIM!
I'M ASKING YOU, SHIBA!
SHIBA!
I UNDERSTAND COMPLETELY, YAK.
I ACCEPT.
I GET IT.
I'M NOT DISCOUNTING THE LEGEND, BECAUSE THAT DOG IS TRULY A MONSTER.
EVERYONE WILL BE AFTER THIS BEAST. WE CAN'T HANG AROUND HERE.
HE HE HE, SEE WHAT YOU THINK, EH?
HA HA HA.
TAP TAP
HE HE HE HE.

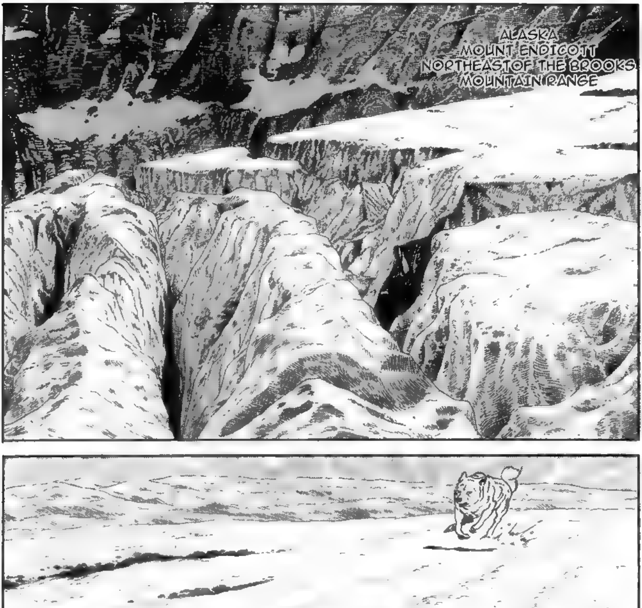
SOMETHING SMELLS FISHY... THAT DOG MUST BE GUARDING SOME MASSIVE SECRET.
...
ONE HUNDRED THOUSAND DOLLARS IS NO SMALL AMOUNT.
I DON'T HAVE ANY IDEA WHO IT IS ....
BUT SOMEONE IS OFFERING A REWARD OF ONE HUNDRED THOUSAND DOLLARS FOR THE DOG'S HEAD.
I'M GOING TO SHED SOME LIGHT ON THIS.
I WAS GOING TO GO FOR IT, ANYWAY.
SHIBA ...
YOU WILL SEE, YAK!
I'M GOING TO UNMASK THIS BEAST WITH MY OWN TWO HANDS!
I'M GOING TO FIND OUT EXACTLY WHERE THAT DOG CAME FROM.
...

FAIRBANKS, ALASKA
WHAT'S UP, SHIBA? SOMETHING WRONG?

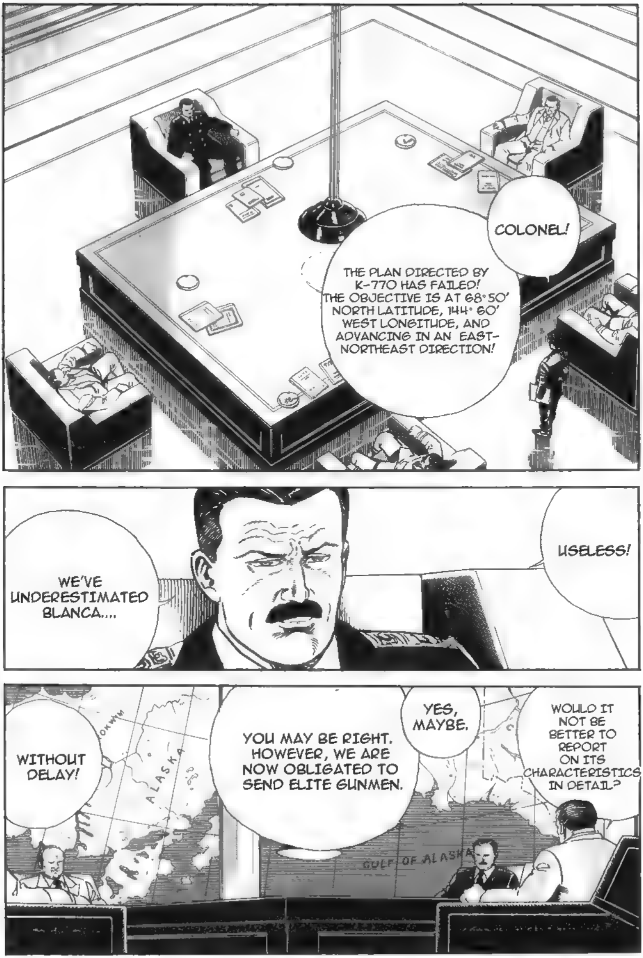
ALL BECAUSE OF THAT DOG...
WHAT?!
ISN'T IT TOO EARLY FOR YOU TO BE OFF THE MOUNTAIN?
EVERYONE LEFT.
THAT CAN'T BE!
IT TOOK HIS RIGHT ARM.
THE ONLY ONE WHO'S SURVIVED IT IS YAK.
EH?!
E-
IT ALL SEEMED TOO EXAGGERATED TO BE A SIMPLE DOG.
WHAT DO YOU MEAN?
...
DID YOU NOT SEE THE WOLF'S EARS?
CRAIG ...

EVIDENTLY, IF YOU TEMPT A STARVING HORSE WITH A GOOD CARROT...
GLOUP
...
EVEN SO, YOU SENT US IN. AM I WRONG?
YOU KNEW IT.
THERE ARE NOT MANY ORGANIZATIONS THAT HAVE THEIR TENTACLES DEEP IN ENOUGH INFORMATION TO CONTACT US.
NO WAY. I CAN'T DO THAT! SECRECY WAS PART OF THE NEGOTIATION!
I WOULD LIKE TO SEE YOUR CLIENT.
...
NOTHING MORE.
SPEAK CLEARLY! WHAT ARE YOU INSINUATING?!
CRAIG!
AAHH
UGH ...

STOP THINKING, AND LOOK ME IN THE EYE!
GET IN TOUCH WITH THEM! DON'T FORGET ABOUT ALL THOSE DEAD MEN!
UGH ...
YOU THINK I CARE? DO YOU THINK I WOULD FORGO THIS OPPORTUNITY?
HEHE, DON'T MAKE ME LAUGH.
IF YOU THINK YOU CAN GO ON LIVING YOUR LIFE AFTER THIS, YOU'RE WRONG! YOU DAMN DISGRACE!
SHHHH
I'M NOT KIDDING, CRAIG.
UUUHH.... DON'T DO IT!
CLIC
TELL ME, CRAIG!
PAF


ALASKA
MOUNT ENDICOTT
NORTHEAST OF THE BROOKS
MOUNTAIN RANGE
TAP

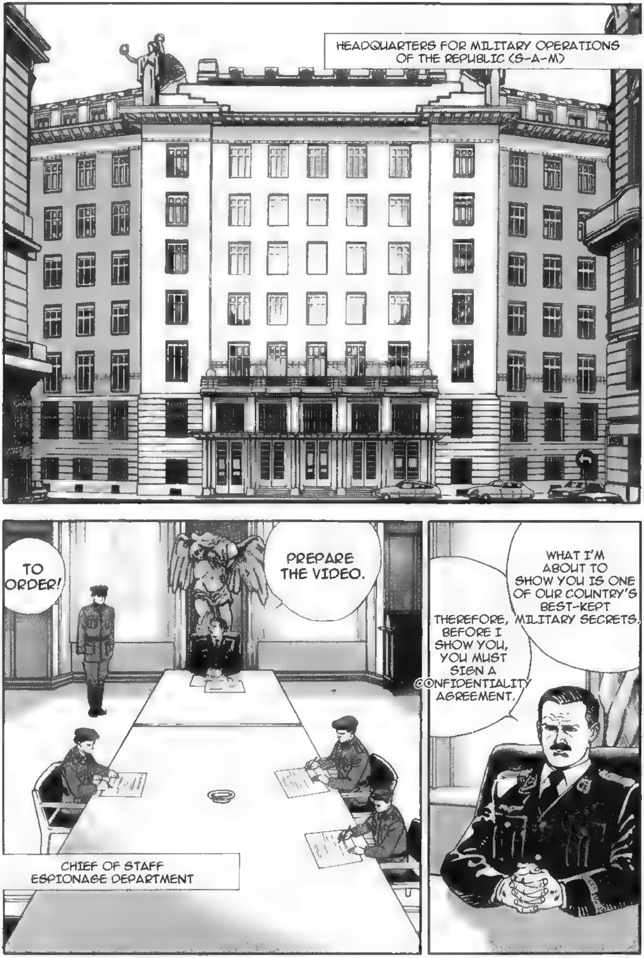
FLAP
FLAP
FLAP
FLAP
BA DA
BA DA
BA DA
BA DA


COLONEL!
THE PLAN DIRECTED BY K-770 HAS FAILED! THE OBJECTIVE IS AT 68°50' NORTH LATITUDE, 144° 60' WEST LONGITUDE, AND ADVANCING IN AN EAST-NORTHEAST DIRECTION!
USELESS!
WE'VE UNDERESTIMATED BLANCA....
WOULD IT NOT BE BETTER TO REPORT ON ITS CHARACTERISTICS IN DETAIL?
YES, MAYBE.
YOU MAY BE RIGHT. HOWEVER, WE ARE NOW OBLIGATED TO SEND ELITE GUNMEN.
WITHOUT DELAY!
ALASKA
GULF OF ALASKA

BLANCA GOES HIS OWN WAY.
SOON, HE WILL LEAVE ALASKA AND ENTER CANADA.
TONGASS NATIONAL FOREST
ARCTIC
IF HE ENTERS THE MAINLAND UNITED STATES, THE SITUATION WILL BECOME WORSE.
THERE'S NOT A SECOND TO LOSE.
IT MUST BE LIQUIDATED IMMEDIATELY. THERE IS NO MARGIN FOR ERROR. THE RESULTS COULD BE CATASTROPHIC.
ARCTIC
NATIONAL
MOUNTAINS
COLONEL... WHAT CONCRETE PLANS DO WE HAVE TO STOP BLANCA'S PROGRESS?
TO BEGIN, I WANT YOU TO PICK THE TWO BEST SNIPERS FROM THE SPECIAL OPERATIONS HEADQUARTERS.
ORDER!
AND ALSO ...
SUMMON THE HEAD OF MILITARY TRAINING FOR BLANCA.
THAT'S ALL FOR NOW.

ANCHORAGE, ALASKA
AH... OOOH....
MONTANA
I MISSED YOU...
OH, HONEY....
A-AAH.....

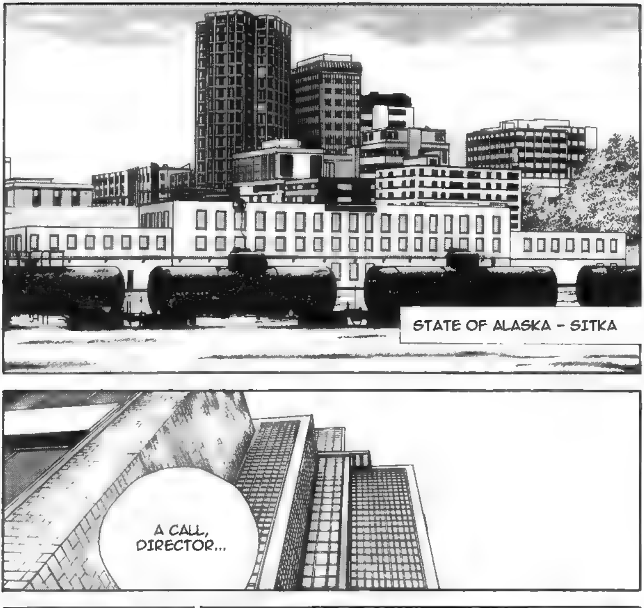
I'M HAPPY WITH YOU. YOU WON'T LEAVE ME AGAIN. RIGHT?
...
MEG...I'M SORRY, BUT WE'RE GOING TO HAVE TO WAIT A LITTLE LONGER.
HEY, WHEN ARE YOU TAKING ME TO JAPAN?
YOU'RE GOING TO CONTINUE POACHING?!
I HAVE BUSINESS PENDING.
IT WILL BE DONE IN SIX MONTHS.
NO... NO, IT'S NOT THAT...
I'M SORRY.... I DIDN'T KNOW. I HAD TO PUT THINGS IN ORDER...
YOU ALWAYS SAY THE SAME THING...


HEADQUARTERS FOR MILITARY OPERATIONS OF THE REPUBLIC (S-A-M)
PREPARE THE VIDEO.
TO ORDER!
CHIEF OF STAFF ESPIONAGE DEPARTMENT
WHAT I'M ABOUT TO SHOW YOU IS ONE OF OUR COUNTRY'S BEST-KEPT MILITARY SECRETS.
THEREFORE, BEFORE I SHOW YOU, YOU MUST SIGN A CONFIDENTIALITY AGREEMENT.

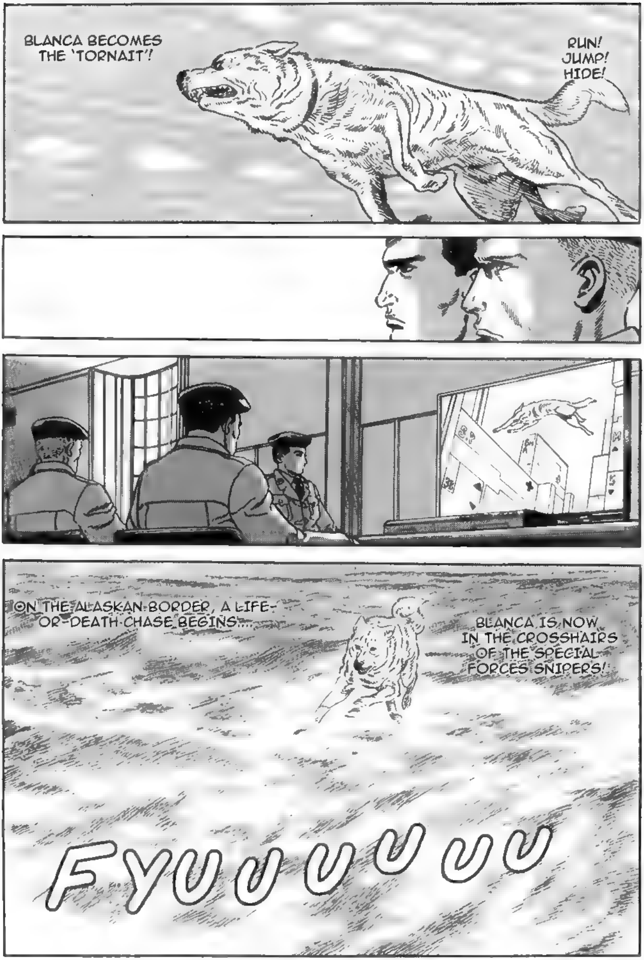
SPECIAL SNIPER UNIT SECONDARY, K2903
SERGEANT OLNA SCHWARTZ
SPECIAL SNIPER UNIT, SEVENTH SQUADRON
S502
ALFEREZ STEPHEN LACOCK
PAY ATTENTION.
YOU'RE GOING TO LEARN ALL THE AMAZING QUALITIES OF BLANCA, YOUR OBJECTIVE.
YES, SIR.
FORWARD, LIEUTENANT WAHLEN.
IT'S ABOUT KNOWING AND FULLY UNDERSTANDING THE DANGERS YOU FACE GOING INTO THIS MISSION.
TRAINER OF SPECIAL MILITARY CANINES
MOLLY WAHLEN

01M
WE WILL START WITH HIS DRIVING FORCE. YOU NEED TO UNDERSTAND THE SPEED HE IS CAPABLE OF.
00:00:02
00:04:57
AS YOU CAN SEE, HIS ACCELERATION ALLOWS HIM TO REACH SPEEDS OF 120 KILOMETERS PER HOUR IN JUST 5 SECONDS FROM A RESTING STATE.
00:05:08
HE CAN MAINTAIN THAT SPEED FOR TEN MINUTES. HE HAS SUPERIOR MUSCULAR AND CARDIOPULMONARY SYSTEMS.
ALL OF THIS ALLOWS HIM TO COVER 20 KILOMETERS IN TEN MINUTES.
09:37:51

THIS IS ONE OF THE KEY ASPECTS WHEN CONFORNTING BLANCA.
THEREFORE, IF BLANCA IS 50 METERS AWAY FROM YOU, HE COULD KILL YOU IN TWO SECONDS.
HIS JUMPING ABILITY
IS, QUITE SIMPLY, SPECTACULAR.
IN TRAINING, HE CLEARED A WALL 5 METERS IN HEIGHT.
EVEN SO, HIS TRUE JUMPING POTENTIAL WASN'T DISCOVERED. HE WILL REACT DIFFERENTLY TO VARYING LEVELS OF DANGER.
THEREFORE, HIS EXACT LIMITS ARE NOT KNOWN.


STATE OF ALASKA - SITKA
A CALL, DIRECTOR...
IT'S OKAY. GIVE ME THE CALL.
A MAN NAMED SHIBA WANTS TO SPEAK WITH YOU ABOUT A WHITE DOG.
WHAT DO YOU WANT?
...

HEHEHE.... AND IF I TOLD YOU I'M A COLLEAGUE OF THE HUNTERS AFTER THE WHITE DOG?
WHO AM I SPEAKING WITH?
FIGUEROA? IS THAT WHO I'M SPEAKING WITH?
VERY GOOD. I'M SORRY TO BOTHER YOU.
HAHA. ARE YOU SURE YOU DON'T KNOW? IT'S NOT REALLY AN APPROPIRATE MATTER TO DISCUSS ON THE TELEPHONE.
WHAT DO YOU MEAN?
I WOULD LIKE US TO MEET TONIGHT.
SO WHAT?!
WHERE?
NINE O'CLOCK AT THE LAUGHING WHALE IN DISTRICT FIVE. DON'T BE LATE.


BLANCA BECOMES THE 'TORNAIT'!
RUN! JUMP! HIDE!
ON THE ALASKAN BORDER, A LIFE-OR-DEATH CHASE BEGINS...
BLANCA IS NOW IN THE CROSSHAIRS OF THE SPECIAL FORCES SNIPERS!
FYUUUUUUU

4

TARGET TO BEAT

THE FOLLOWING FILM SHOWS BLANCA'S ATTACK PATTERN.
THIS EXERCISE WAS CARRIED OUT IN A TRAINING FACILITY THAT SIMULATED REALITY.
Sebastianstraße
LOOK AT HIS DESTRUCTIVE POWER!
FORWARD! ATTACK!
FFFFF

COMBAT PROGRAM NUMBER 105. TWO HUNDRED METERS TO OBJECTIVE. THREE ENEMIES.

BOM
CRAC
AH!
UAAGH!

GYAAAH!
HALT! ENOUGH!
ALL THREE MEMBERS OF THE EXERCISE SUFFERED SERIOUS INJURY.
THIS WAS BEFORE WE KNEW THAT THE PROTECTIVE SUITS WEREN'T SAFE AGAINST BLANCA.
AS WE HAVE SEEN HERE, BLANCA'S STRONG POINTS OF ATTACK ARE HIS EXTREME SPEED AND AGILITY.

THE LAUGHING WHALE PUB
UGHING
ini
TOPLESS
JESTIC
MARASCHINO
CHERRY
SITKA, ALASKA
DISTRICT FIVE
...
MR.SHIBA?
WE REPRESENT MR. FIGUEROA.
WOULD YOU MIND COMING OUTSIDE?

BE REASONABLE. WE DON'T WANT TO CAUSE A SCENE INSIDE THE BAR.
MR. SHIBA ...
LET'S NOT COMPLICATE THINGS.
WHAT'S THE MEANING OF THIS?
CLUB BAR
LIQUOR STORE
NOW, NOW...
WHAT THE HELL DO YOU WANT?
DON'T GET COCKY.
IT'S VERY SIMPLE.
YOU'RE DRUNK, AND FALL OFF THE BRIDGE. AN ACCIDENTAL DEATH.
YOU KNOW THE REASON FOR OUR VISIT.

IT'S JUST THAT I DON'T LIKE BEING COLD AND WET.
DON'T TRY TO BE BRAVE, YOU BASTARD!
DON'T TRY TO TRICK US!
BEING DIFFICULT, EH?
WHAT DO YOU WANT?
NOT TO BE A BOTHER...
BUT I'D LIKE TO ASK A FAVOR.
...
OME TO THE HOTEL CALIF
OVELY PLACE (SUCH A LOVE
SUCH A LOVELY FACE
OF ROOM AT THE HOTEL
E OF YEAR (ANY TIME
YOU CAN FIND IT HER
HIC... HIC...
*I HAD DIFFICULTY READING WHAT WAS BEING SUNG, SO HERE'S "HOTEL CALIFORNIA" INSTEAD
!!
BAM

AAHH!
CRAAC
SPLASH
?!
WHACK!
PAAF

UGH
...
DON'T KEEP YOUR PARTNER WAITING!
AH
...
WAH!
...
THANK YOU, SIR.
YOU JUST SAVED MY LIFE.
WHAT THE...?
THAT WATER'S FREEZING!
PLOUF

HEY, YOU! NOBODY CAN ENTER THIS OFFICE!
CLAC
...
HELLO, MR. FIGUEROA.
I'M SHIBA.

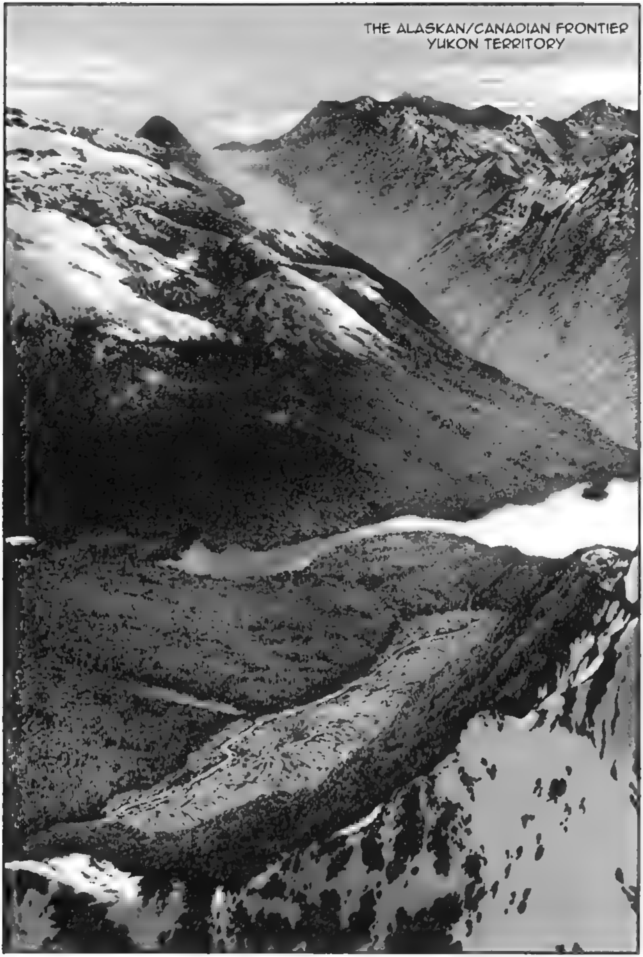
YOU SHOULDN'T BE THAT IRRESPONSIBLE IF SOMEONE'S TRYING TO ASSASSINATE YOU.
IF THEY'RE THAT IMPORTANT, NOTHING GOOD WILL HAPPEN.
PAF
WHAT DO YOU WANT?
MONEY?
WELL, YES, BUT...
HERE.
I TOOK IT OFF YOUR COLLEAGUES.
AND?
WHAT SECRET?
THERE ARE NO SECRETS...
I'M INTERESTED IN THE SECRECY BEHIND THE WHITE DOG.

I KNOW YOU'RE A SCRET AGENT FROM SOME EASTERN-BLOC COUNTRY. START TALKING.
...
I GUES YOU WOULDN'T CARE IF I WENT TO THE CIA.
WELL, THEN ...
...
I'M WILLING TO KILL THAT DOG.
BUT FIRST, I MUST KNOW OF ITS ABORNORMAL QUALITIES.
FHHHH FHHH
I SAW HOW IT ATTACKED WHEN IT KILLED MY PARTNER IN FRONT OF ME.
IF YOU WANT TO LIQUIDATE THAT DOG, I NEED TO KNOW HIM THOROUGHLY.
WE DO NOT HAVE ACCESS TO DETAILED INFORMATION ON BLANCA.
YOU DREAM OF THE DEAD, NO?
...
SO, WHAT'S THE PRICE?

OF COURSE, AS LOW-RANKING AGENTS, WE ONLY HAVE ACCESS TO INFORMATION OF LOW RELEVENCE, WHICH, IN CASE OF INFILTRATION, IS NOT A THREAT TO NATIONAL SECURITY.
Cigaret
WE DON'T KNOW ANYTHING.
SERIOUSLY?
...
BLANCA? THAT'S HIS NAME?
FIND THE PROBLEM AND ELIMINATE IT - THAT'S ALL WE WERE GIVEN, NOTHING MORE, NOTHING LESS.
SO, YOU DON'T WANT IT ALIVE.
YOU BETTER BE STRAIGHT WITH ME.
QUICKLY, TELL ME WHAT YOU KNOW.
DON'T ASK ME AGAIN.
I CAN PROMISE YOU ONE THING: BLANCA'S CORPSE, IN MY HANDS...
SO THAT YOU CAN CLIMB THE RANKS IN THE AGENCY.

THAT LIQUIDATING *ME* WILL NOT SOLVE ANYTHING.
OH, AND I ADVISE YOU...
...
THERE'S NO TURNING BACK.
YOU DON'T HAVE TO LIE TO ME, FRIEND.
DAMMIT.....
OKAY....
ANYTHING HAPPENS TO ME, AND I GO DIRECTLY TO THE CIA.
ONE WHO IS AWARE OF EVERYTHING...
THAT'S *BETTER!* WE HAVE A DEAL!
I CAN PROMISE YOU THAT.
15
BUT... THE CLOCK IS TICKING.
I'LL BE HERE FOR THREE MORE DAYS, KEEP ME UPDATED ON WHAT YOU KNOW.

NOW YOU KOW EVERYTHING ABOUT BLANCA.
THAT IS ALL.
REVIEW THE INORMATION WELL. ANALYZE AND ASSIMILATE IT TO MEMORY.
YOU WILL BE PAID TOMORROW.
I WISH YOU SUCCESS! GOOD LUCK!

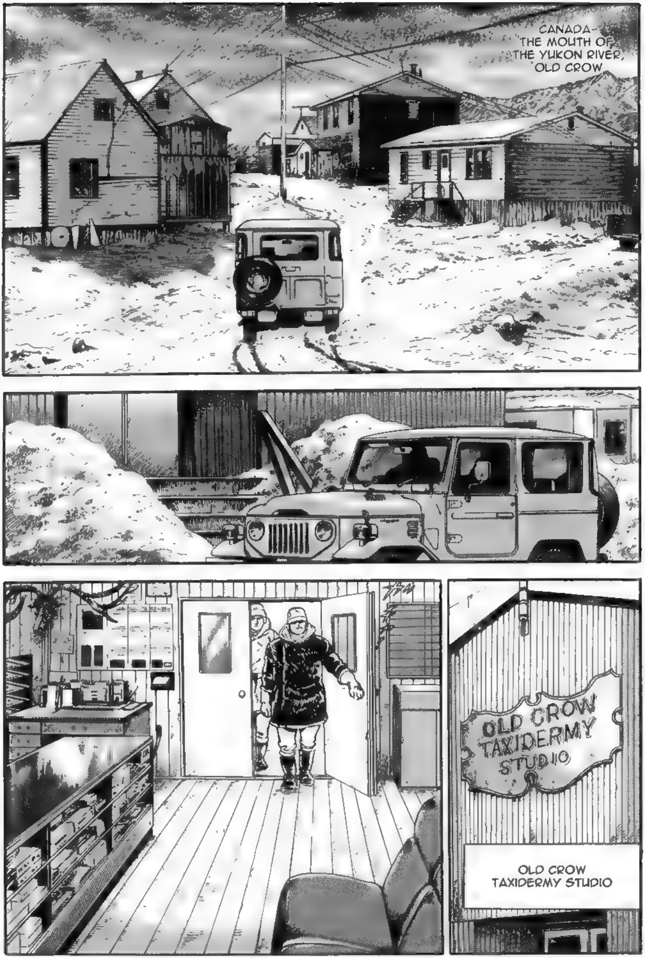

THE ALASKAN/CANADIAN FRONTIER
YUKON TERRITORY

BRROOO
IT'S AN IMPRESSIVE HERD.
300 STRONG, MAYBE.
NO, MORE THAN THAT.
BRROOO
JUST AS EXPECTED.
COMPARED TO LAST YEAR, THE NUMBER OF WOLVES HAS INCREASED.
IN THE PAST TWO WEEKS, WE'VE COUNTED MORE THAN 50,000 HEADING TOWARDS THE SOUTH.
AND ABOUT 100 WOLVES FOLLOWING THE HERDS.

!!
?!
THERE!
LOOK THERE, DAVID!

WHAT ARE YOU DOING?! START FILMING AT ONCE!
YES!
MOTHER OF GOD!
IT'S A DOG.
A WHITE DOG.
THAT'S NO WOLF.
IT'S NOT IN A PACK, LIKE A WOLF WOULD BE....
IS THAT THING WILD?
NO IDEA.

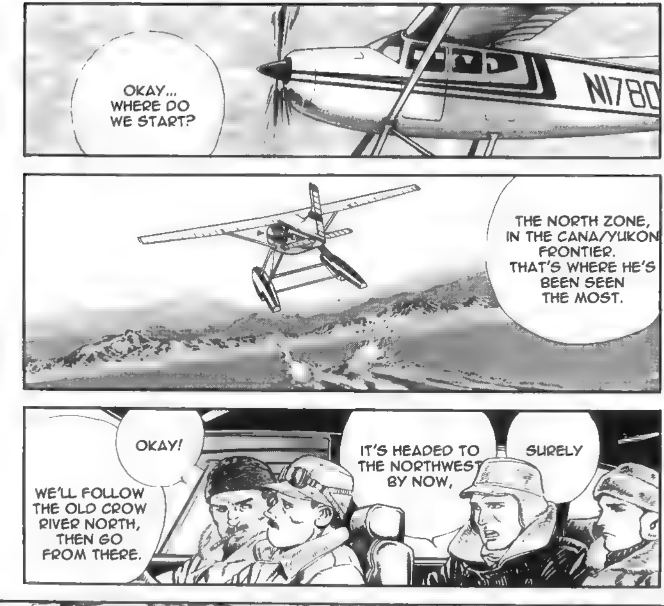
AND I DON'T SEE ANY OTHER DOGS AROUND.
IS THERE A HUNTER WITH IT?
IN ANY CASE, IT'S BEING CAREFUL.
IT HAS NO REINFORCEMENTS... WOLVES COULD COME TAKE IT.
...
IT'S A DOMESTICATED DOG.
MAYBE IT'S BEEN SPECIALLY TRAINED.
....IT SEEMS AMAZING THAT IT COULD SURVIVE OUT HERE ALONE....
BUT, ALSO...


CANADA-
THE MOUTH OF THE YUKON RIVER, OLD CROW
OLD CROW TAXIDERMY STUDIO
OLD CROW TAXIDERMY STUDIO

HEY, NICK!
THEY WANT YOU!
WHAT DO YOU WANT?
WE WANT TO HIRE NICK EVANS' HUNTING GUIDE SERVICES.
NICK'S THE BEST HUNTING GUIDE IN THE REGION. NOBODY LEAVES EMPTY-HANDED. I GUARANTEE IT!
THAT SO?
I'M GLAD TO HEAR.
HELLO, I'M NICK. NICE TO MEET YOU.
THE PLEASURE IS OURS. WE'LL BE TOGETHER FOR THE DURATION.

GOD, GOOD. WHAT'S THE PREY?
MOOSE? GRIZZLY? TELL ME, I'LL MAKE YOUR DREAMS REALITY.
WE WANT THIS DOG.
....?
COME, NOW.
ARE YOU JOKING?
NOT AT ALL. THIS IS THE OBJECTIVE. WE'RE INTERESTED IN MORE THAN TROPHY GAME.
WELL, WELL, WE'RE OFF TO KILL A DOG.
WHATEVER YOU SAY, THEN

WE'RE HERE.
IT CONFUSED ME AT FIRST...
...
BUT NOW I SEE WHY YOU CHOSE SUCH A CLEAR DAY.
HAHAHA.
WELL, WHATEVER.
HOWEVER WE DO IT, MY PAY IS THE SAME.
BIG RED'S
FLYING SERVICE



OKAY... WHERE DO WE START?
N1780
THE NORTH ZONE, IN THE CANA/YUKON FRONTIER. THAT'S WHERE HE'S BEEN SEEN THE MOST.
SURELY
IT'S HEADED TO THE NORTHWEST BY NOW,
OKAY!
WE'LL FOLLOW THE OLD CROW RIVER NORTH, THEN GO FROM THERE.
BA DA BA DA

WHAT'S WRONG, HELEN?
WHAT'S ON YOUR MIND?
...
I'M WORRIED ABOUT THAT DOG WE SAW.
NO, IT'S JUST THAT...
I GOT THE IMPRESSION THAT THAT DOG IS VERY SPECIAL.
WHY WORRY ABOUT IT?
DO YOU WANT TO DEIDCATE YOURSELF TO DOCUMENTING WILD DOGS?
...

MAYBE MORE THAN WOLVES...
I'D LIKE TO GET IT.
FLAP FLAP FLAP
THE DISTANT DRONE OF THE SKYWAGON REACHED HIS EARS.
THE LONG DISTANCES WERE BEGINNING TO WEAR BLANCA DOWN. HIS RESISTANCE WAS REACHING ITS LIMIT.

5

PERSECUTORS

ARCTIC OCEAN
BANKS ISLAND
AMUNDSEN GULF
POINT BARROW
Barrow
BEAUFORT SEA
CHUKCI SEA
TESHEKPUK LAKE
BARTER ISLAND
CAPE LISBURNE
Point Hope
BROOKS RANGE
U.S.S.R.
UNITED STATES
Bering Strait
CHUKOTSK PENINSULA
ALASKA
Arctic Village
Inuvik
Fort Mcpherson
MACKENZIE RIVER
GREAT BEAR LAKE
Old Crow
SEWARD PENINSULA
Fort Yukon
PEEL R
Norman Wells
CANADA
NORTHWEST TERRITORIES
YUKON TERRITORIES
Nome
Tamana
Rupy
Fairbanks
NORTON SOUND
Dawson
BERING SEA
YUKON RIVER
KUSKOKWIM MOUNTAINS
ALASKA RANGE
McGrath
ALASKA HIGHWAY
PELLYR
BRITISH COLUMBIA
KILBUCK MOUNTAINS
Anchorage
Whitehorse
SAINT ELIAS MOUNTAIN
Kenai
MONTAGUE ISLAND

BLANCA COULD NOW PERCEIVE THAT SOMETHING SINISTER WAS STALKING HIM.
HUUUUUU
THE FUR ON HIS NECK BRISTLED. HIS PERSECUTORS WERE NO AMATEURS.
HAH
HAH
HAH
BUT HE COULD NO LONGER INCREASE HIS PACE. HIS LIMBS ACHED. HE NEEDED REST TO RECOVER.

CANADA - YUKON TERRITORY
MOUNT RICHARDSON
HUUUUU
HUUUU
HUUU
HAH
HAH
HAH
HAH
HAH
HAH
HAH
HAH
HAH

HUUUUUUUUU
WITHOUT A DOUBT, THESE ARE HIS TRACKS.
THEY'RE NOT FROM WOLVES OR COYOTES.
HAAAH
...
STILL RELATIVELY FRESH.
MAYBE 2 OR 3 DAYS SINCE HE WAS HERE.

AS WE GUESSED, THEY'RE HEADING DUE EAST.
IF WE HAVE HIS TRACKS, WE'RE AT AN ADVANTAGE.
I AGREE.
COULD WE FOLLOW THEM A BIT MORE? GET A BETTER IDEA?
PERFECT
THERE IS NO ESCAPE.
THE ONLY QUESTION IS THE LIMITS OF OUR PATIENCE.
HUUUUU HUUUUU

A REINDERR CARCASS.
DID THAT DOG DO ALL THIS?
INCREDIBLE.
...
BEN DEAD FOR UNDER A DAY....

NICK,
IT'S IMPORTANT FOR YOU TO REALIZE THE DOG WE ARE LOOKING FOR IS NOT ORDINARY.
I TOLD YOU FROM THE START.
I GET IT.
BLANCA IS PERFECTLY CAPABLE.
THIS DOG IS FAR MORE DANGEROUS THAN A BROWN BEAR.
THAT'S FINE.
...
I'M GLAD YOU HAVE CHOSEN ME.
THIS ISN'T A GAME. LET DOWN YOUR GUARD, AND WE'LL HAVE SERIOUS PROBLEMS.
ALL WE'RE ASKING IS YOU TAKE YOUR JOB SERIOUSLY.
WE WILL KILL BLANCA.

CINEMAX
ADULT THEATER
3 FEATURES
Erotica
CRYST L ADULT THEATRE
SITKA, ALASKA - DISTRICT 10
UUUM...
HMM?
HEY!
OH!
SHIT!

I CAN'T IGNORE THIS.
AS MUCH AS I ENJOY YOUR LEGS...
WILL YOU COME BACK?
THERE'S AN IMPORTANT APPOINTMENT.
I HAVE TO GO. I'VE ONLY GOT HALF AN HOUR TO GET THERE.
WHAT HAPPENED?
CLAC
LATER.
GOOD!
I'LL BE BACK AS SOON AS I'M DONE.
SMOOCH
VROOOUUUUMMM
THE LAUGHING WHALE, DISTRICT FIVE.
I'M LATE.

LAUGHING
THERE, ON THE OTHER SIDE OF THE ROAD,
BAOUM
¡!

LAUGHING
HOW AWFUL!
K I I I I I I I I I
...
ISN'T THIS WHERE YOU WERE GOING?
WHAT ARE YOU WAITING FOR?
DRIVE ME....
TO A HOTEL OUTSIDE THE CITY.
...
DOESN'T MATTER NOW.
YES ....
VRRR

WHAT DOES THIS MEAN?
IS IT GETTING TIRED?
I THINK THAT'S A LOGICAL ANSWER.
IT'S SLOWED DOWN SINCE YESTERDAY.
KNOWING BLANCA, HE KNOWS WE'RE FOLLOWING.

NICK, IS THERE ANY WAY FOR US TO CIRCLE AROUND AND TRAP HIM?
IT'LL TAKE MANPOWER, BUT IT'S NOT IMPOSSIBLE.
WE CAN ANALYZE THE ROUTE RIGHT NOW.
HE ADVANCES ONLY IN A CERTAIN DIRECTION.
WE'RE RIGHT HERE.
HE SEEMS TO BE MOVING EAST IN A STRAIGHT LINE.
Aklavik
Old Crow
THE IDEAL POINT OF AMBUSH...
WOULD BE ON SAINT HILL.
...
WE'LL BE DIVIDED INTO TWO TEAMS.
WAHLEN AND I WILL BE IN THE SKYWAGON.
YOU TWO ON FOOT.
WE MEET AT SAINT HILL.

OFFICE OF SPECIAL SCIENTIFIC MILITARY DEVLOPMENT, OR REPUBLIC R
THE COLONEL HAS JUST ARRIVED! A VISA AROUND THE WORLD!
HOW IS THE MAN?
NO GREAT CHANGES - MORE OR LESS EQUAL.

I GET IT.
PSYCHO-LOGICALLY... UNSTABLE.
A SHORT INTERVIEW CAN'T HURT.
CAN I SEE?
Pshhhh
HOW ARE YOU, PROFESSOR RYAPKOVA?
...
HAVE YOU RETURNED TO MAKE ME SUFFER AGAIN?

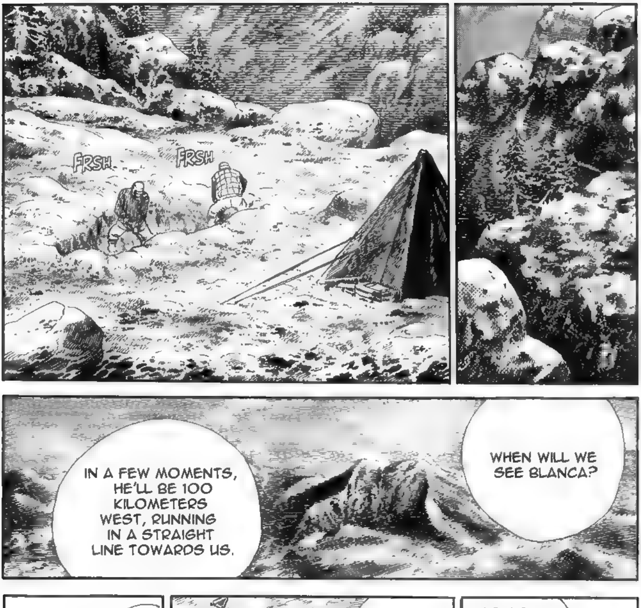
WE FEEL DIFFERENTLY.
I'M SORRY.
I WANT TO MAKE IT CLEAR.
I WILL DO NO MORE.
...
I PRAY YOU UNDERSTAND.
UNDERSTAND ALL OUR EFFORTS TO ACHIEVE A POLITICAL-MILITARY FORCE ALLOWING US TO STAND AGAINST TWO WORLD SUPERPOWERS.
NEVERTHELESS ...
I KNOW. YOU DON'T NEED TO TELL ME.
YOU CAN'T FINISH BLANCA OFF WITH YOUR FORCES.
WHAT HAS HAPPENED TODAY?
WOULD YOU LIKE TO KNOW OF BLANCA'S WHEREABOUTS?

WE'RE VERY GRATEFUL, PROFESSOR RYAPKOVA.
YOU WANTED IT THAT WAY.
I ONLY WISH HIM A DIGNIFIED DEATH IN NATURE.
PERHAPS IT'S BEST FOR BLANCA...
BECAUSE OF THAT, IT WILL BE A GREAT SHAME TO LOSE BLANCA.
COLONEL SCHMIDT... YOUR POROCEEDINGS HAVE DISTRESSED ME DEEPLY.
...
SOON, YOUR DREAM THAT WAS MADE REALITY WILL BE SAFE.
LIEUTENANT WHALEN ALSO PROVIDES SUPPORT IN THE SEARCH FOR BLANCA.

HELLO?
SITKA
DON JUAN STREET
HOTEL BEAVER HEAD
HE WANTED TO SPEAK WITH THE DEPARTMENT HEAD, MR. FIGUEROA.
Travel with the editors of rchitectural Digest to those hrilling, far-away places you've lways wanted to visit. Through evocatively written prose and hundreds of superb full color photographs, you'll visit villas, châteaux and townhouses in Madrid, London, Tangier, Kong and other places aroun globe.
International Interiors, ed
Digest, is a p
volume to Cel
American Interi
elegantly designed
beautifully printed on rich
enameled stock with fine cloth
binding and full color jacket. There
5th district explosion.
Originated at the "Laughing Whale" pub.
8 dead, 13 wounded.
YOU DON'T KNOW?
WHEN?
YESTERDAY? THEN WHERE IS IT NOW?
WHAT?
HE RESIGNED?

...
TCHAC
THIS MAN...
I MEAN IT
...
FHHHHH
I HAD
UNDERESTIMATED
...
SHIT!
MEG!
ONE WHO
IS AWARE OF
EVERYTHING..
I'LL GO TO
THE CIA IF
YOU DON'T
PAY.

NORTHWEST CANADA - SAINT HILL
VRRRRRR
IT NEEDS TO BE SAFE.
WE'LL SET UP A POSITION TO TAKE THE SHOT.
WE NEED A PLACE WITH GOOD VISIBILITY.


FRSH
FRSH
IN A FEW MOMENTS, HE'LL BE 100 KILOMETERS WEST, RUNNING IN A STRAIGHT LINE TOWARDS US.
WHEN WILL WE SEE BLANCA?
AT HIS SPEED, IT'LL TAKE ABOUT A DAY AND A HALF.
SO HE COULD SHOW UP MORNING OR NIGHT.
ANYWAY, IT'S IMPORTANT THAT YOU CALL WITH THE WHISTLE.
I AGREE.

BLANCA TRAINING LEVEL C-2, NUMBER 6...
FYUUUUU
HE DIDN'T COMPLETE THE LAST TRAINING LEVEL, E-3...
WILL HE RESPOND TO THE CALL OF THE DOG WHISTLE IF HE DIDN'T COMPLETE THE PROGRAM?
PIIIHHIIIIHIIIIII

THE DOG WHISTLE
THE SOUND AUDIBLE TO THE HUMAN EAR RANGES BETWEEN 20 AND 20,000 HERTZ IN FREQUENCY.
DOGS CAN HEAR AT A CAPACITY REACHING 120,000 HERTZ
IT IS AN INSTRUMENT THAT BY ULTRASONIC TONES, DOGS CAN BE COMMANDED FROM A GREAT DISTANCE.
THE "CALL" FREQUENCY THAT A DOG CAN HEAR, IS ANAUDIBLE TO HUMANS.
BLANCA COULD RECOGNIZE THE CALL OF THE WHISTLE FROM 100 KILOMETERS.
WHALEN BLEW THE WHISTLE IN A SERIES OF 4-SECOND, 60,000 HERTZ TONES, FOLLOWED BY 2 SECONDS OF SILENCE.

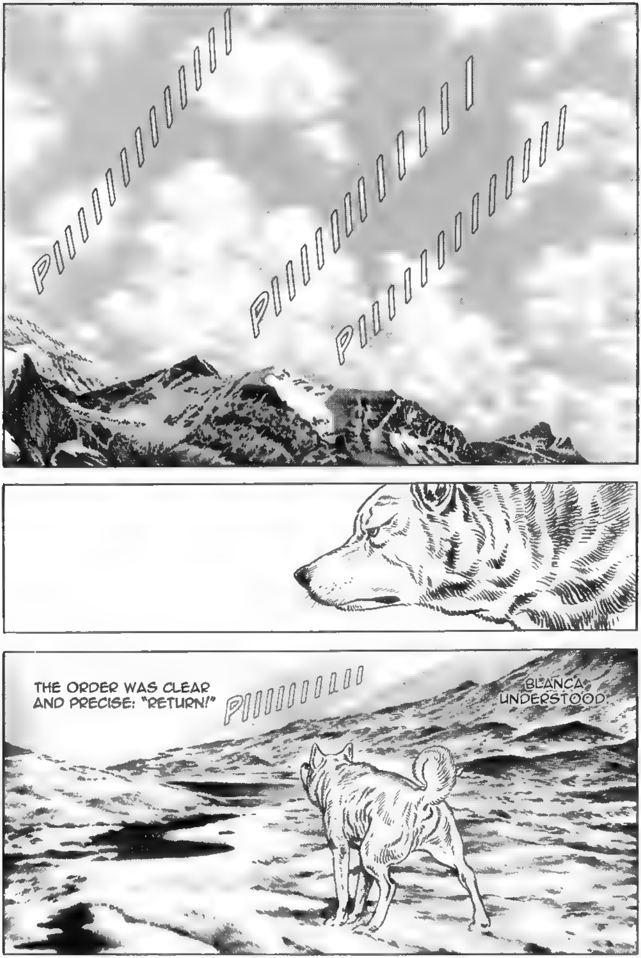
PIIIIIII
PIIIIIII
PIIIIIII
PIIIIIIIIIII

THE ORDER FROM ACROSS THE FRIGID TUNDRA BEATS A STEADY RHYTHM INTO BLANCA'S BRAIN
PIIIIIII
PIIIIIII

PIIIIIIIIII
PIIIIIIII
PIIIIIIIII
IIIIIII

6

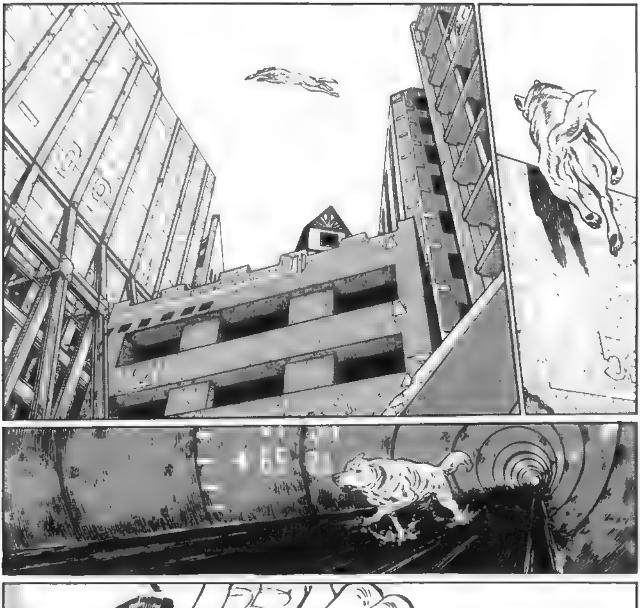
IN THE SPOTLIGHT

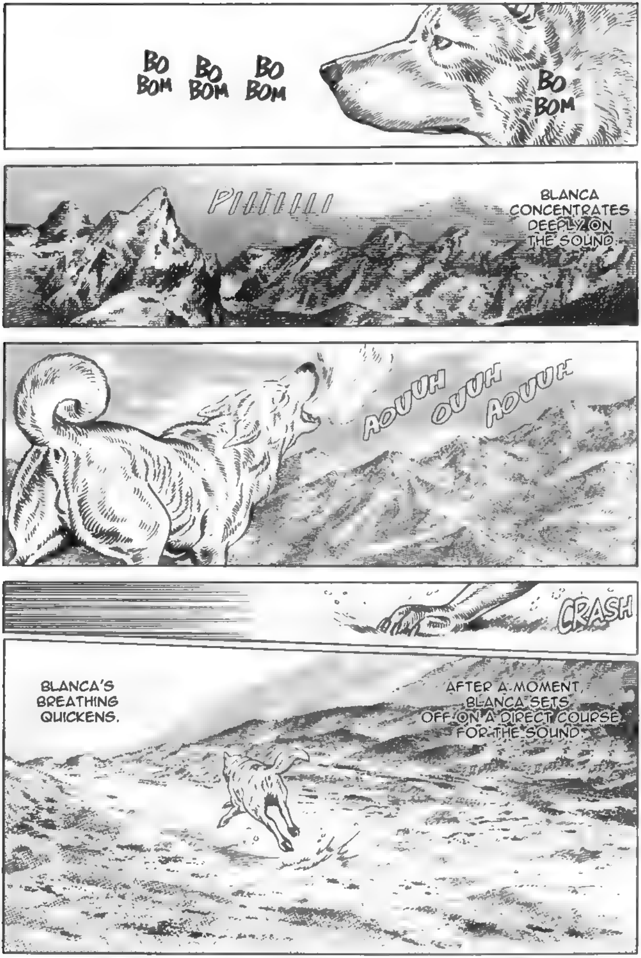

PIIIIIIIIIII
PIIIIIIII I I I
PIIIIIIIIIII
THE ORDER WAS CLEAR AND PRECISE: "RETURN!"
PIIIIIIIIII
BLANCA UNDERSTOOD.

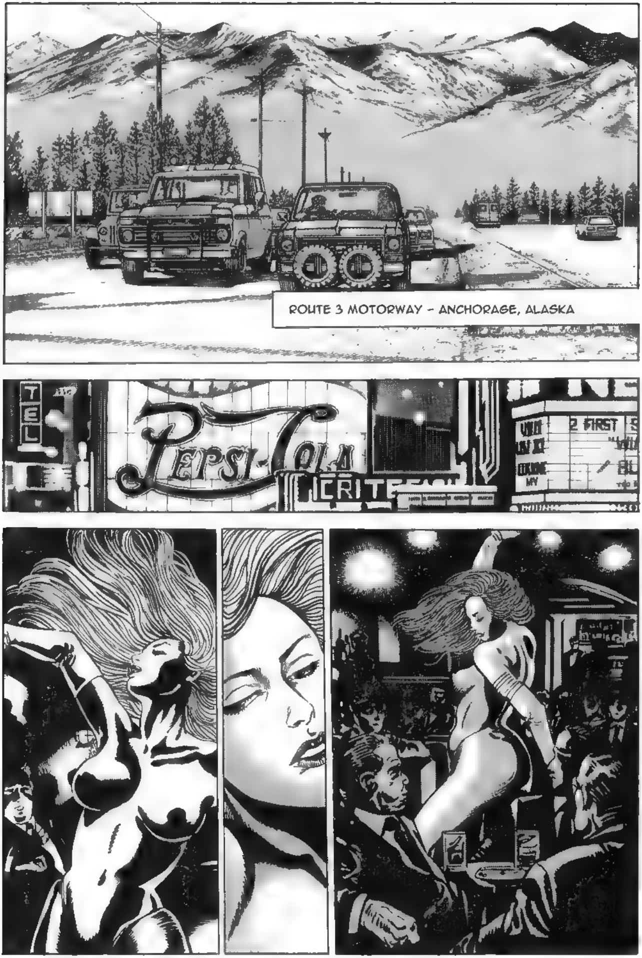
THE CADENCE OF THE WHISTLE AWAKENS BLANCA'S CONSCIOUSNESS.
BO BOM BO BOM
HIS HEART WAS RACING.
THE WHISTLE'S PITCH RESEMBLED THE WHIPPING WIND, AND STIMULATED HIS AGGRESSION.

Piiiiii
iiiiiiiiii
30°

013
KON




BO BOM BO BOM BO BOM
BO BOM
PIIIIIIII
BLANCA CONCENTRATES DEEPLY ON THE SOUND.
AOUUH OUUH AOUUH
CRASH
BLANCA'S BREATHING QUICKENS.
AFTER A MOMENT, BLANCA SETS OFF ON A DIRECT COURSE FOR THE SOUND.


ROUTE 3 MOTORWAY - ANCHORAGE, ALASKA
TEL
Pepsi-Cola
2 FIRST

I'M SORRY, MEG.
I DON'T WANT YOU TO LEAVE! I WON'T LET YOU GO AGAIN!
SHIBA!
WHAT MORE DO YOU HAVE TO DO? I THOUGHT YOU WERE FINISHED.
CLEARLY... BUT THERE WERE A FEW MORE CONCERNS AND...
...
SWEETIE ...
VLAF

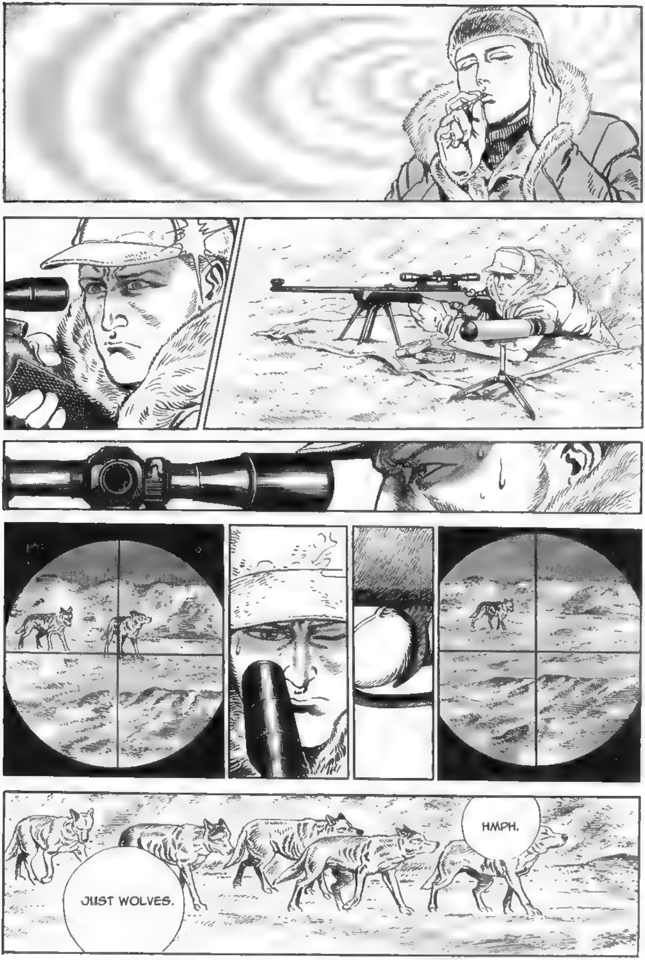
...
IT'S BETTER IF YOU HAVEN'T NOTICED ANYTHING.
NO, NOTHING ...
HAVE YOU SEEN ANYTHING ODD?
WHAT? WHAT DO YOU MEAN?
YES.
SHUP
I'M FED UP, THIS CITY IS FREEZING!
YOU AID YOU'D TAKE ME TO JAPAN! YOU PROMISED ME!
WAIT ...
VLAF
I LOVE YOU, SHIBA!
YOU DON'T HAVE TO WORRY ABOUT MONEY, I HAVE SOME.
I'VE BEEN THINKING ABOUT US, AND SAVING.

BLORTCH
CRAC
BAM
OOOH ...
MEG!

DAMN PIG!
CLAC
SCRR
DOH!
PAC

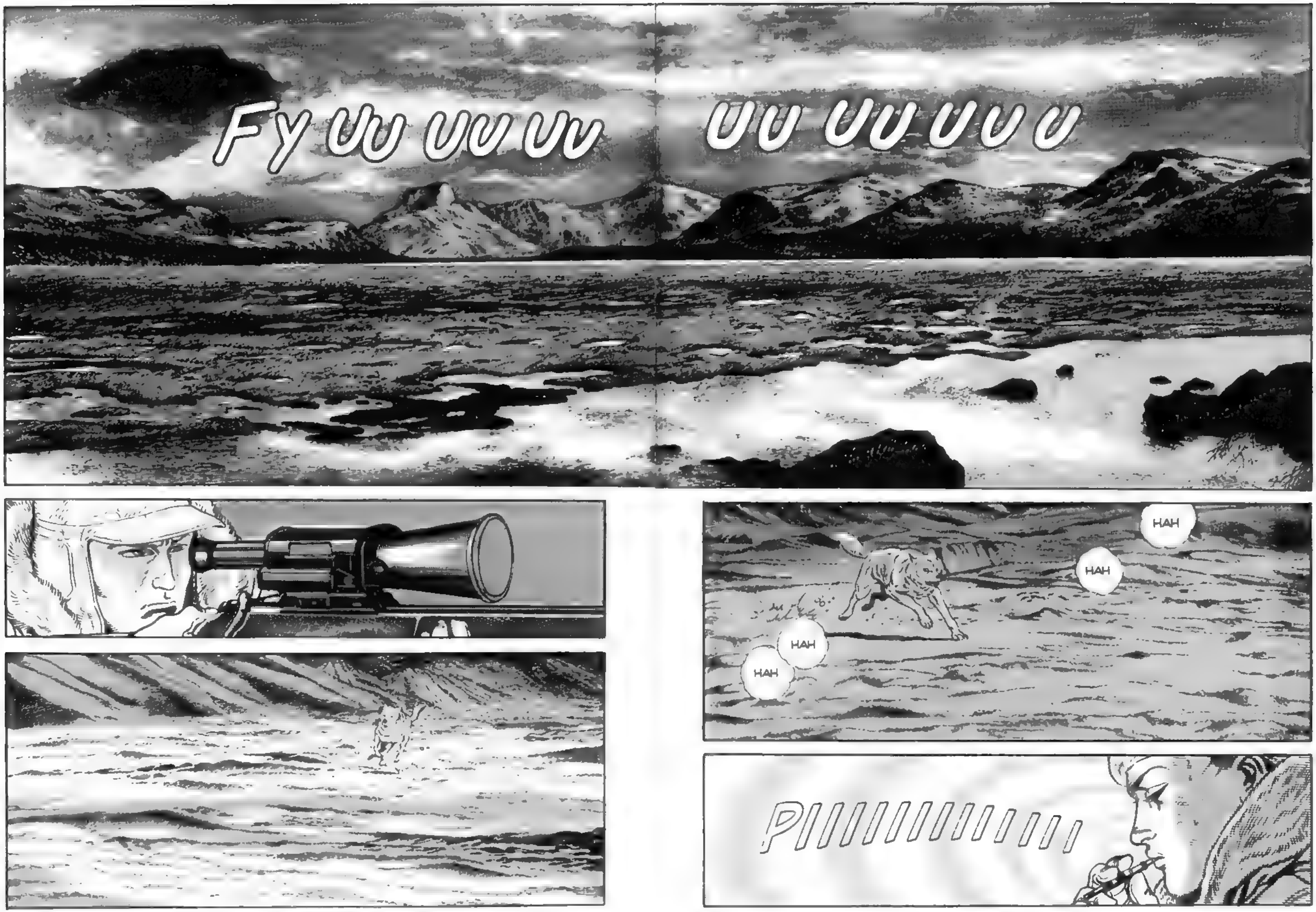
vrooooouuum
PAF
PAC
HAH
HAH
HAH
HAH
RUPPERT
UH...
MEG...

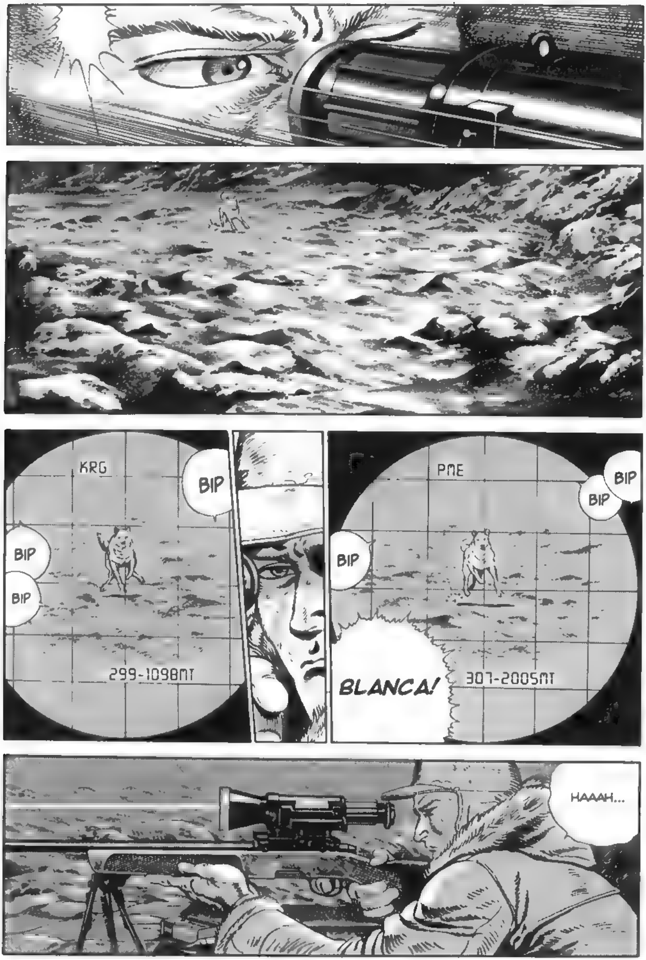
PIIIIIIIIIIIIIIII


JUST WOLVES.
HMPH.

FYU UU UU UU
IT NEEDS TO BE HIGH UP.
I DON'T KNOW HOW FAR THE WHISTLE REACHES...
IF HE HEARD IT, BLANCA WIL BE APPROACHING AND MIGHT APPEAR OVERNIGHT.
...
HE'S ALREADY COMING.
BLANCA'S ALREADY ON HIS WAY.
HE'S REACTED TO THE CALL OF THE WHISTLE.
IT'S OKAY. WE CAN WAIT.

PIIIIIIIIIII
PIIIIIIIIIII
HAH
HAH
HAH
HAH
HAH
HAH
HAH
HAH
HAH
CROSSPOINT OF 109 METERS.
CLAC!


Fyuu uuuu
uu uuuuu
HAH
HAH
HAH
HAH
PIIIIIIIIIIIII


KRG
BIP
BIP
BIP
299-1098MT
PME
BIP
BIP
BIP
BLANCA!
307-2005MT
HAAAH...

BIP
BIP
BIP
BIP
BIP
100 METERS TO THE CROSS POINT..
CALM... CONTROL YOUR BREATHING... REMOVE TENSION...
HAH
HAH
HAH
HAH
THE DOG IS FOCUSED ON THE WHISTLE...
ALRIGHT... QUIET... BLEND IN WITH THE ENVIRONMENT...
QUIET.. CONTROL YOUR BREATHING... AIM BETWEEN THE ROCKS AND THE SNOW...

PIIIIIIIIIIIIIIII
BHQ
BIP
BIP
100=0028MT
XJF
BIP
BIP
108=0749MT
CLIC

PAN
GRRR

...
HE VEERED OFF COURSE!
AH!
BIP
BIP
BIP
BIP
BIP
BIP
WHERE IS HE?!
WHERE IS THAT DEMON?!
PAN
CLIC
WHALEN! THE FLARE, QUICKLY!

BOM
DAN
DAN
AAAH!

GRROAARR
CRAC
CRAC
UAAAH...
THE LIGHT OF THE FLARE IS EXTINGUISHED AT TIMES
BLANCA ...
THE COLD AND THE DARK COVERED THE INTERTWINED BODIES OF BLANCA AND THE SHOOTER...

WOUNDED

HAAAH...
HU UU U U U U
SHBAM...
SHUUUUUUU
CLIC
PAN

!!
HAH
HAH
HAH
HAH
HAH
CLIC

PSSHHHH
HAH
HAH
HAH
HAH

SHUUUUUUU
BLANCA...

Fy uu uu uu
HAAAH...
WHY
....
Fyuu uu uu
WHY COULDN'T I SHOOT?!

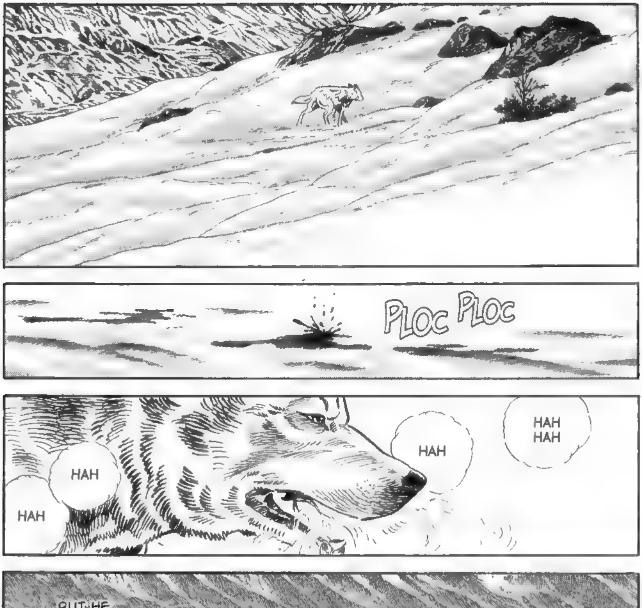
CLING
CLING
GLOU
GLOU
BLANG
BANG
UUUH
...
UAAAH
PUAAAH

MEG!
AAAAAH!
CRASH
UUUH...
I'M SORRY, MEG....
WHY DO THIS...
BECAUSE OF THAT DOG...
SINCE WE'VE CROSSED PATHS, NOTHING GOOD HAS HAPPENED....
GODDAMN DOG.

IT'S BEEN 10 DAYS SINCE WE'VE SEEN IT.
YES, IT'S BEEN HEADING EAST...
IT SHOULDN'T BE TOO FAR FROM HERE.
HELEN, HOW LONG ARE YOU GOING TO KEEP LOOKING FOR IT?
UNTIL I FIND IT, OF COURSE.
AND WHAT ABOUT THE WOLF REPORT?
THE UNIVERSITY WON'T WAIT FOREVER.
I HAVE A THOUSAND EXCUSES TO KEEP THEM PREOCCUPIED.
THE IMPORTANT THING RIGHT NOW IS TO FIND THE DOG.

I HAVE TO SEE IT AGAIN.
I'VE NEVER SEEN ANYTHING LIKE IT.
WE'RE NEVER GOING TO FIND THAT DOG.
WHATEVER YOU WANT, HELEN.
OKAY, OKAY.
...
THAT DOG IS FAR MORE IMPRESSIVE THAN ANY I'VE EVER SEEN.
BECAUSE OF THIS, I FEEL I HAVE TO...
DAVID...
WHENEVER YOU GET SOMETHING IN YOUR HEAD, YOU HAVE TO FOLLOW THROUGH.
LOST TO THE RIVER...
FYUUUUU

THERE'S A BLOOD TRAIL.
...
HELEN!
MAYBE.
DO YOU THINK IT'S FROM THAT DOG?
IT LOOKS FRESH.
THIS DIDN'T HAPPEN THAT LONG AGO.
WHAT DO YOU THINK THIS BLOOD MEANS?
THESE ARE NOT A WOLF'S TRACKS.
I THINK IT MIGHT BE INJURED, DAVID! WE HAVE TO FIND IT IMMEDIATELY!
I'LL GET THE SNOWMOBILE, WAIT HERE!


PLOC PLOC
HAH
HAH
HAH
HAH HAH
BUT HE HAS NO MORE STRENGTH TO KEEP RUNNING...
BLANCA CONCENTRATES ALL HIS SENSES ON THE SLIGHT TREMORS BENEATH HIS FEET. HE IS BEING PURSUED....

HAH
HAH
HAH
HAH
VROOOOU
OUU
VROUUU
DAVID, LOOK!

FRSHHHHHH
AH, WAIT!
LOOK!
HAH
HAH
HELEN, DON'T GO CLOSER...
HEY, BE CAREFUL!
HAH
HAH
HAH
HAH

HE'S NOT A WILD DOG.
HE'S BADLY WOUNDED AND VERY NERVOUS.
HE'S HURT, AND COULD BE DANGEROUS.
NOTHING'S GOING TO HAPPEN, JUST LOOK AT HIM.
HAH
HAH
HAH
HAH
URRR ...
ARE YOU OKAY?
YOU HAVE A TERRIBLE WOUND...
URRR...
YOU DON'T HAVE TO BE AFRAID....
WHAT HAPPENED?
I'M HERE TO HELP.

WE WANT TO HELP. WOULD I LIE TO YOU?
YOU'RE IN A BAD STATE, AND WILL DIE QUICKLY...
RR RR RR RR RR
TRUST US.
GRRR ...
I KNOW YOU UNDERSTAND ME.
...
GOOD BOY.
HAH
HAH
HAH
YOU'LL SURVIVE THIS.
I PROMISE.

SLURP
HAH
HAH
HAH
DAVID!
HE'S HURT! SHOT WITH A RIFLE!
HUH ....
THANK YOU...
UGGG ...

HAH
HAH
WHY WOULD SOMEONE DO THIS?!
THIS IS A CRITICAL SITUATION. WE HAVE TO HEAL HIM QUICKLY.
HAH
WHAT ARE YOU THINKING, HELEN?
I'LL CARE FOR HIM!
I DO HAVE SOME VETERINARY EXPERIENCE...
HAVE YOU EVER OPERATED ON AN ANIMAL?
NO TIME, WE HAVE TO OPERATE!
THERE'S A CABIN ABOUT 5 KILOMETERS FROM HERE IN THE DIRECTION OF FORT MCPHERSON.
THEY'RE ABANDONED NOW, BUT THEY USED TO BE USED BY GOLD MINERS.
I WANT YOU TO CARRY THESE SURGICAL INSTRUMENTS.
ALRIGHT!

CANADA - NORTHWEST INUVIK
BANK OF COMMERCE
WHERE IS HE?
I'VE HEARD THAT YAK HAS BEEN BACK....
HELLO.
SIR, MY NAME IS SHIBA. DO YOU KNOW HIM?
WHERE'S HE BEEN?

ALONG WITH THE ARM, I THINK HE LOST A FEW SCREWS IN THE HEAD.
YES ...
I'M SO GLAD HE'S OUT OF THE HOSPITAL.
THAT'S RIGHT.
HAVE YOU COME ONLY TO SEE HIM?
YAK? ...
* BLANCA V1, CH 3
...
HE GOES AROUND ASKING IF THE *TORNAIT** HAS COME.
HE SPENDS THE DAY PRACTICING HIS ONE-ARMED SHOOTING.
YAK HAS TAKEN TO HEART AN OLD INUIT LEGEND.
WHAT DO YOU MEAN?
YOU'LL FIND HIM THERE.
GO TO SUGAR LAKE.
HE SAYS HE'S GOING TO KILL THE *TORNAIT*, HEHEHE...

PAN PAN
PAN
PAN
...
PAN
PAN
...
YAK!
HEY!
CLIC

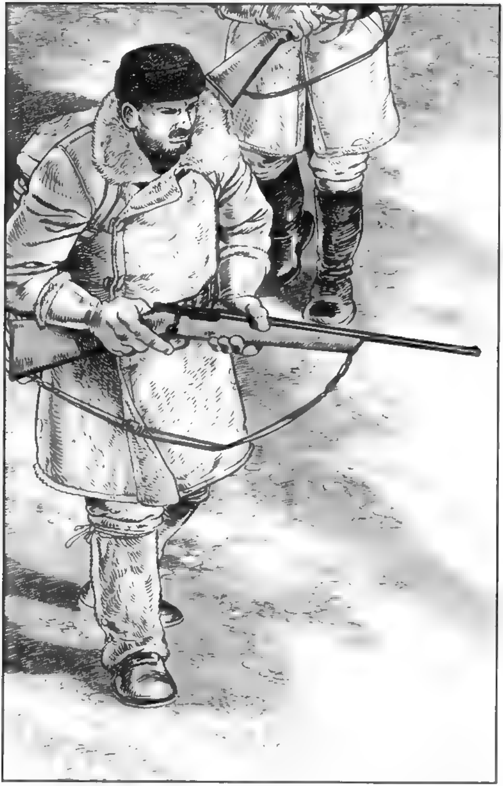
HA HA HA!
TAP TAP
SHIBA!!
HA HA!
I SEE YOU'RE WELL.
AS ARE YOU!
WHAT ARE YOU DOING?
ARE YOU HUNTING AGAIN?
YES.
IN A UNIQUE WAY...
WILDY 45 MAG...
WITH THIS, I CAN TAKE DOWN LARGE ANIMALS EVEN WITH ONLY ONE-ARM.

THEY TOLD ME YOU'VE BEEN THINKING OF GOING AFTER THAT DOG.
YES. I HAVE TO DO SOMETHING.
I LOST MY ARM IN THE FIRST ATTEMPT, BUT I HAVE TO FINISH HIM OFF.
THAT DOG...
THE ONE THEY CALL BLANCA...
...
FUUU
...
I'VE BEEN STUDYING IT, AND...
I'VE COME TO UNDERSTAND THAT THAT DOG IS INDEED THE *TORNAIT*.
SHIBA...
NOW I KNOW WHAT I HAVE TO DO.
CLEARLY.

FLAP
...
DEVIL DOG!
I CAN'T BELIEVE HE TOOK DOWN LACOCK...

...
GO, GO.
HEHE.
OF ALL OUTCOMES, ONLY WOUNDED...
IF WE START NOW, IT WON'T BE MUCH OF AN EFFORT TO BRING HIM DOWN.
I THINK WE'LL HAVE CONTACT IN A DAY.
AND ALSO...
FYUUUUUUUU

8



THE DOG: FRIEND OF THE WEST

HE'S BEEN SHOT TWICE WITH A RIFLE, BUT LUCKILY NO VITAL ORGANS WERE HIT..
ONE OF THE BULLETS WENT THROUGH THE RIGHT FRONT LEG, SO WE NEED TO CONTROL THE BLEEDING, DISIFECT, AND GET ANTIBIOTICS GOING.
HAH HAH
HAH
HAH HAH
THE OTHER ONE IS IN THE RIGHT SIDE OF THE CHEST. IT'S AMAZING HE'S STILL AWAKE,...
HE HAS INCREDIBLE MENTAL FORTITUDE.
AT THIS POINT, HE MAY DIE FROM BLOOD LOSS IF WE DON'T REMOVE THE BULLET IMMEDIATELY.

HAH
HAH
HAH
HELEN, YOU CAN'T OPERATE LIKE THIS!
WITHOUT ANESTHETIC?!
YOU'RE TAKING A HUGE RISK!
I TRUST IN MY ABILITIES...
I'LL USE LOCAL ANESTHETIC.
HE'S BLEEDING TOO BADLY TO PUT UP MUCH RESISTENCE.
IN HIS CONDITION, IT COULD BE TOO DANGEROUS TO PUT HIM UNDER...HE MIGHT NOT WAKE UP...
BUT!

...
I THINK HE CAN STAND A BIT MORE...
HE'S ALREADY IN SO MUCH PAIN...
HAH
HAH
I WON'T LET YOU DIE.
I PROMISE ...
KUAU
STAY STRONG.
Kuuun
TRUST US, AND KEEP HOLDING ON.
ALRIGHT, DAVID.
LET'S GET STARTED.
GOOD BOY.

WE MIGHT NOT HAVE TO WASTE ANY BULLETS.
LOTS OF BLOOD.
MUST'VE HIT AN ARTERY.
...
HE MIGHT EVEN BE DEAD ALREADY.
HEH... A FITTING END FOR THAT MONSTER.

GGG...
GGG...
HAH
HAH
ANALGESIC!
QUICKLY!
HAH
BULLET EXTRACTED SUCCESSFULLY!
FUUUF
I GOT IT!
PREPARE TO SUTURE!

VROOOOO
N178
CAN WE FLY DIRECTLY INTO WHITE HORSE?
OF COURSE.
HOW WAS YOUR HUNT?
DID YOU GET WHAT YOU CAME FOR?
NO, NOT REALLY...
WE WERE UNABLE TO GET COLLECT OUR SAMPLE.
I GET IT ....
BUT... I WORRY ABOUT LOSING TRACK OF WHAT WE CAME FOR...

WAIT!
THE DOG LAID HERE IN AGONY FOR FOUR OR FIVE DAYS...
BUT...THERE ARE BOOT PRINTS...
I'M AFRAID WE HAVE A PROBLEM.
WHAT IS IT?
FYUUU
PROBABLY NOT IF THEY TOOK HIM...
NO, THEY COULDN'T TAKE HIM IF HE WAS.
WHAT, YOU THINK BLANCA'S STILL ALIVE?!
SOMEBODY TOOK IT.
THESE SNOWMOBILE TRACKS LEAVE NO DOUBT.
...

...
IF A VETERINARIAN IN THE CITY GETS AHOLD OF IT, THERE'S GOING TO BE MORE TROUBLE...
DAMN THAT BEAST'S LUCK....
HA HA ...
SO, WHAT DO WE DO?
WE FOLLOW IT UNTIL IT'S DEAD!
Fyuu uuu uuu
THE NEAREST CITY IS FORT MCPHERSON.
THAT'S THREE DAYS BY SNOWMOBILE.
THAT'S A LONG TIME FOR IT TO SURVIVE IN THAT STATE...

HAH
HAH
HAH
HAH
HAH
NOW WE HAVE TO KEEP AN EYE ON HIM.
GOOD WORK.
THAT WAS LOOKING BAD FOR A WHILE, HELEN, BUT WE DID IT.
FUF...
KUUUN
YOU ARE A CHAMPION.
YOU'RE AN AMAZING DOG WITH A MARVELOUS TELEPATHIC CAPACITY.

KUUU...
YOU'RE A FRIEND WHO'S COME FROM THE WEST.
AND YOU'RE NOT JUST A DOG...
HEY, HELEN.
WHY DO YOU THINK HE WAS SHOT?
JUDGING BY THE BULLET WOUNDS IN THE FRONT OF HIS CHEST, IT SEEMS LIKE HE WAS ATTACKED.
THE LOGICAL CONCLUSION IS HE WAS SHOT TO BE A TROPHY.
OR JUST SIMPLE PERSECUTION.
I EXTRACTED A BIT OF BLOOD AND MUSCLE.
I'D LIKE TO HAVE IT TESTED AT THE UNIVERSITY LABORATORY.
I WANT TO SEE THE MICROSCOPIC STRUCTURE OF HIS CELLS.

WHITE HORSE - CAPITOL OF THE YUKON TERRITORY
...
...IS GATHERING INFORMATION FOR A PROVISIONAL REPORT.
SO, THIS ALFEREZ LACOCK....
I HOPE SO ....
I'M TIRED OF ALL THE BITCHING BECAUSE OF ONE DOG.
I THINK WE'RE ABOUT TO RECEIVE THE FINAL NEWS.
WE'LL BE ABLE TO INFORM THE COLONEL WITHOUT FEAR.

IF OUR OBJECTIVE HAD BEEN HUMAN, THIS MAY HAVE BEEN LESS COMPLICATED ...
HOPEFULLY ...
HOPEFULLY THIS MEANS WE CAN CLOSE THE CASE AND LEAVE.
WE'VE BEEN PUTTING IN ALL THIS EFFORT...
WHERE ARE YOU GOING NOW, LIEUTENANT?
I'LL GO BACK TO OLD CROW.
I CAN'T LEAVE WITHOUT FIRST RECEIVING WORD FROM SERGEANT SCHWARTZ.
OH, BY THE WAY...
THERE'S A MAN TRACKING BLANCA.
HE'S A JAPANESE HUNTER NAMED SHIBA.
JUST IN CASE...
...
I'VE GIVEN INSTRUCTIONS TO THE MOTORIZED UNIT OF THE ESPIONAGE DEPEARTMENT TO TAKE CERTAIN...*MEASURES* AGAINST HIM.

TUNDRA
852-278
CAFE & BA
THE WHITE DOG?
WHAT KIND OF DOG IS IT?
NO IDEA.
DON'T THINK I'VE SEEN IT AROUND HERE.
IT LOOKS LIKE A HUSKY, BUT IT'S NOT.
HE WORKS AS A GUIDE IN OLD CROW.
A TRUE HUNTER.
...
NICK?
ASK NICK.
HE KNOWS THE MOUNTAINS LIKE THE BACK OF HIS HAND.

YES, PERHAPS.
BUT WE'RE STILL GOING TO HEAD TO OLD CROW.
THERE'S NO TIME TO LOSE.
HEY, SHIBA.
AT THESE HEIGHTS, WE MAY HAVE EXCEEDED THE MCKENZIE.
WHAT'S THAT TRUCK?
WHY ARE ...
THEY'RE APPROACHING AT A HIGH SPEED.

SHIT! SON OF A BITCH!
HEY, SHIBA!
THEY'RE GOING TO RAM US!
THEY WANT TO KILL US!
STEP ON IT!
IT'S USELESS! THEY'RE TOO FAST!
VROOOOO
VROOOOO
BAM

KIIIIIII
UAH!
BAM

CLIC
YBROOOOOO
SHOOT, YAK!
PAN
PAN
KIIIIIII
CRAC
CRAC

SCRAAASH
HMPH
...

YOU LIKE IT? I'LL CALL YOU CHIEN.
IT'L BE OUR SECRET CODE.
LE CHIEN...
HA HA HA...
KUUUK
CHIEN.
YOU UNDERSTAND?
HELLO.
FUUUF
YOU REST.
WHEN YOU GET BETTER, WE'LL TAKE YOU TO A HOSPITAL IN VANCOUVER.
KUAU

HOW ARE YOU?
WHAT DID YOU GET?
THIS ...
HALF A DAY OUT, AND ALL YOU CAN SHOW FOR IT IS A RABBIT?!
CALM DOWN, HELEN, I'M NOT A PROFESSIONAL HUNTER.
AH...I'M GETTING DESPERATE ...
ANYWAY, IT'S WINTER, MOST ANIMALS ARE HIBERNATING.
ESTE CONEJO ES CASI UN REGALO DEL CIELO... NO NOS PODEMOS QUEJAR.
I'M SORRY MY TEMPER'S SHORT, DAVID.
THE TRUTH IS, I'M VERY GRATEFUL.
HMPH.
GOODBYE, LITTLE RABBIT...
ANYWAY, THIS RABBIT WILL BE GOOD FOR CHIEN.

FYUUUUUUU
GRRRR
GARR-RRR...
GRRRR
...
WHAT'S WRONG, CHIEN?!

IT'S IN THAT CABIN.
NO...,
IT'S NOT.
SEEMS THEY COULDN'T MAKE IT TO THE CITY.
YOU THINK IT'S DEAD?
...

...
CLAC
I CAN FEEL ITS PRESENCE.
I KNOW IT'S HERE.
GRRRRR
IS IT THE PEOPLE WHO SHOT HIM?!
WHAT IS IT?!
FYUUUU

9

THE MOOR

GRRRR
DON'T LET THEM IN! THEY'RE HERE TO KILL CHIEN!
I SEE THEM.
GRRR...
THERE'S ONLY TWO.
GARR-RRR...
WHAT IS IT, DAVID?
WHAT DO I DO?

BOUM
BOUM
WHO'S THERE?!
WE WANT TO ASK YOU QUESTIONS.
CAN WE COME IN?
MY NAME IS NICK EVANS. I'M GUIDING A HUNTER FROM OLD CROW.
...
WHAT KIND OF QUESTIONS?!

...
WE'RE LOOKING FOR AN INJURED WHITE DOG.
THIS IS SERIOUS.
THAT DOG HAS KILLED PEOPLE.
IT'S EXTREMELY DANGEROUS. WE HAVE TO KILL IT.
IT MUST BE DISPATCHED.
WE'RE PROFESSIONAL HUNTERS.
WE'VE FOLLOWED IT FOR SEVERAL DAYS.
I'M SORRY, THERE IS NO DOG.
I BELIEVE YOU'RE AT THE WRONG PLACE.
WE KNOW IT'S IN THIS CABIN.
SAVE YOUR LIES.

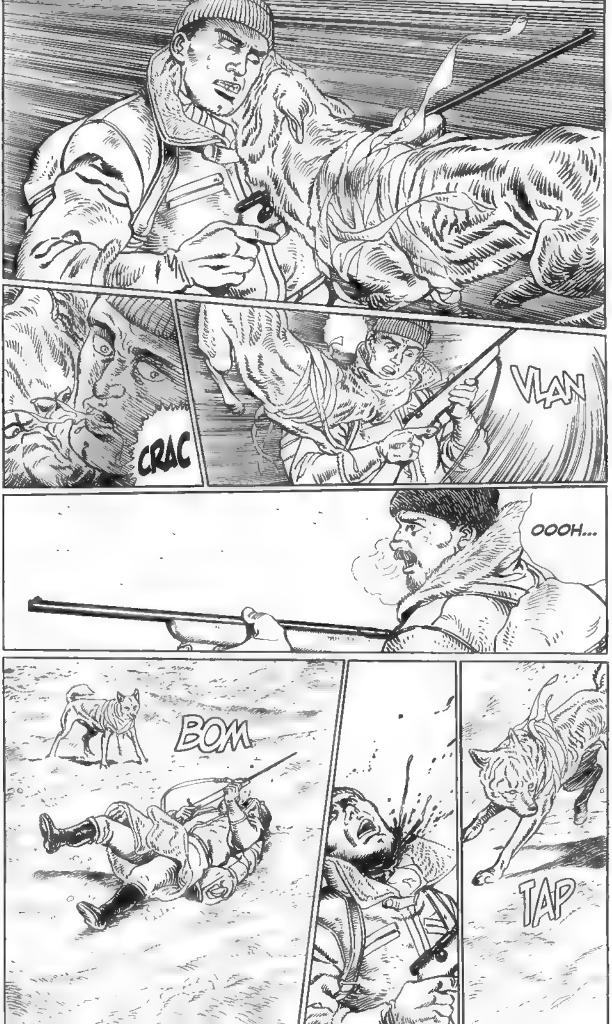
GRR...
I UNDERSTAND YOU SAVE HIM FROM A PAINFUL DEATH, AND DO NOT WISH TO SURRENDER.
WE WILL COMPENSATE YOU. IF YOU HAND IT OVER WITH A FUSS, YOU WILL BE GREATLY REWARDED.
WHAT DO YOU THINK? IT'S NOT A BAD DEAL...
I ASK FOR YOUR UNDERSTANDING.
WE ONLY WANT THE DOG.
AND IF WE DECLINE?
QUIET, CHIEN!
WE HAVE NOTHING AGAINST YOU, AND DO NOT WANT TO SEE YOU HURT.
GARR-RRR

...
ARE YOU REALLY SURE IT'S IN THE CABIN?
NICK!
CLAC
I'M SURE OF IT.
!!
PAN

PAN
PAN
GET OUT OF THERE, BLANCA!
WAIT!
IDIOT!
AH!
GRRR
BLING
WAIT, DON'T SHOOT!
OKAY, I'LL TELL THEM!
ARE YOU ALL RIGHT?!
HELEN!
EXPLAIN TO THEM THAT WE SAVED HIM!

PAC
LET US TALK!
PAN
CRIII
AAAH...
DAVID!!
GRR
RRR

GRRRRR
TAP
CRASH


CRAC
VLAN
OOOH...
BOM
TAP

HUU UU UU UUU
HAA
HAA
QUICKLY!
DOWN!
PUT IT
DOWN!
BLAM
PAF

...
CHIEN!

I CAN'T BELIEVE IT...
...
IT SHOULDN'T HAVE HAPPENED THIS WAY...
WE DID NOT HAVE ANY ILL INTENT...
WHERE IS THE DOG?!
HOW COULD YOU MONSTERS HAVE DONE THIS?!
WHY MUST YOU DEMONS KILL THAT DOG?!
...
AAAH...
HOW IS THIS POSSIBLE ....
DAVID...

SHIBA, WHO DO YOU THINK WAS AFTER US?
ARE YOU SERIOUS?
SPIES.
SPIES?
CLEARLY THEY WERE SPIES FROM THE EAST, TRACKING BLANCA.
VRRRR
IT'S FIGUEROA. I'VE HIT IT RIGHT ON THE NOSE, I'M SURE OF IT.
IT SEEMS I;VE MADE MYSELF KNOWN TO THEM.
ALRIGHT.... MAYBE THEY EXIST OUTSIDE TELEVISION...

PLASH
VRRRR
SHUT YOUR MOUTH!
HELLO, NICK.
COME BACK SOON.
BIG RED'S
FLYING SERVICE
HA HA HA, PUTTING THE BOOTS TO HER, MAN...
THERE'S A GORGEOUS GIRL WAITING FOR ME.
DON'T YOU UNDERSTAND?! LEAVE ME ALONE!

I APOLOGIZE ...
OLD CROW TAXIDERMY STUDIO
I DON'T HAVE ANY EXCUSE FOR WHAT HAPPENED.
HE'S GONE.
DISAPPEARED INTO THE EAST.
AND WHERE IS BLANCA?
IT'S CERTAIN THAT I UNDERESTIMATED THE DOG. NOW I KNOW WHY YOU HUNT HIM.
I KNOW IT DOESN'T HELP TO DISCUSS IT NOW...

I DON'T LIKE TO ADMIT IT, BUT FOR THE FIRST TIME, I TRULY FEARED FOR MY LIFE.
I NOTICED ALL THE HAIR ON MY BODY STOOD UP.
I HAVE SPENT MUCH OF MY LIFE AS A GUIDE...
THE ARRIVAL OF THIS DOG IS THE FIRST THING TO BOTHER ME.
...
NOW, HUNTING THIS DOG HAS BECOME A PERSONAL MATTER.
ON THE SUBJECT OF THE AMERICAN SCHWARTZ SHOT?
AH, YES, THAT'S A THORNY SUBJECT...I TAKE FULL RESPONSIBILITY FOR WHAT HAPPENED,,,,
IT WAS AN ACCIDENT WITH A CLIENT INVOLVED...
IT HAS ENTERED INTO A GAME BETWEEN MY REPUTATION AS A GUIDE, MY BUSINESS AND HOW I DEFINE MYSELF.
I THINK ABOUT THE CONTRACT I SIGNED WITH YOU...

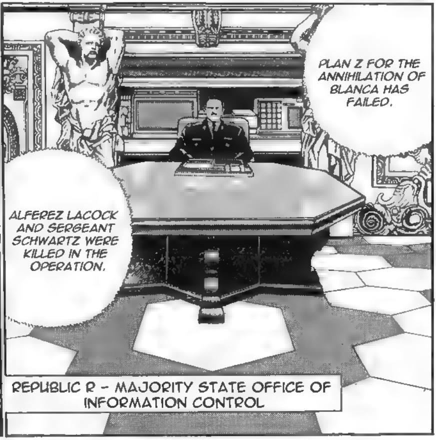
AS I SAID, IT'S A PROBLEM THAT CONCERNS ME PERSONALLY. I WILL COMPLY WITH THE CONTRACT THE REST OF MY LIFE.
BY DISCONNECT.
...
LET'S SEE WHAT THE TERRITORY POLICE DO....
BUT ANYTHING RELATED TO US MUST REMAIN ENTIRELY CONFIDENTIAL.
YOU KNOW I ALREADY SUPPOORT YOU.
I WILL NOT SAY A SINGLE WORD ABOUT THE DOG TO ANYONE.
AAAH, IT'S NOT IMPORTANT.
...
THE DOG HOW MANY DID YOU MAKE?
BY THE WAY...
HA HA.
IN THE PIT OF MY STOMACH, I CAN FEEL THIS IS SOMETHING THAT WILL DEFINE MY LIFE AS A HUNTER.
THAT BEAST IS M.I.A.

...
HIIIIIII
OLD CROW
IDERMY
UDIO
IT'S HERE, NO?
...

...
LOOKING FOR A GUIDE?
WE'RE LOOKING FOR NICK.
I'M SORRY.
NICK IS NOT AVAILABLE.
HE JUST RETURNED FROM A JOB.
DO YOU WANT ANOTHER?
WE'RE NOT HERE TO HUNT.
WE WANT TO TALK TO HIM.
WE'RE NOT HERE TO WASTE TIME.
...
WENT WANT TO KNOW IF HE'S SEEN SOMETHING IN THE AREA...
A WHITE DOG.

AN INUIT.
I DON'T REMEMBER SEEING THEM HERE...
WHAT DO YOU HAVE?
A WHITE DOG?!
I DON'T THINK YOU KNOW ANY DOG.
...
CALM DOWN, NICK.
I'M TIRED....
TELL THEM TO FRY ASPARAGUS!
CLAC

BEEP BEEP
COLONEL SCHMIDT, WE HAVE RECEIVED AN URGENT COMMUNICATION FROM K-L770.


PLAN Z FOR THE ANNIHILATION OF BLANCA HAS FAILED.
ALFEREZ LACOCK AND SERGEANT SCHWARTZ WERE KILLED IN THE OPERATION.
REPUBLIC R - MAJORITY STATE OFFICE OF INFORMATION CONTROL

THE ONLY SURVIVOR WAS LIEUTENANT WHALEN, WHO IS AWAITING ORDERS FROM THE ESPIONAGE DEPARTMENT.

CREATE AN EMERGENCY COMMAND COUNCIL AND LET EVERYONE KNOW!
MAE A DETAILED REPORT AND REMIT THE INTERNAL DEPARTMENT OF THE GENERAL SPECIAL OPERATIONS HEADQUARTERS.
THAT WILL DO!
AT THIS MOMENT, BLANCA IS MOVING FROM THE YUKON IN CANADA TO THE NORTHWEST TERRITORY.
BIP
HMPH.
I HAVE BEEN TOO IMPRUDENT.
AND NOW WE MUST ENACT A LONG-TERM PLAN.
A DISASTER.
SO BLANCA COULD BE TEMPTED?

BLANCA BARELY REMEMBERED HIS WOUNDS... THOUGH HE WOULD HAVE LIKED TO STAY WITH THE WARMTH AND AFFECTION...

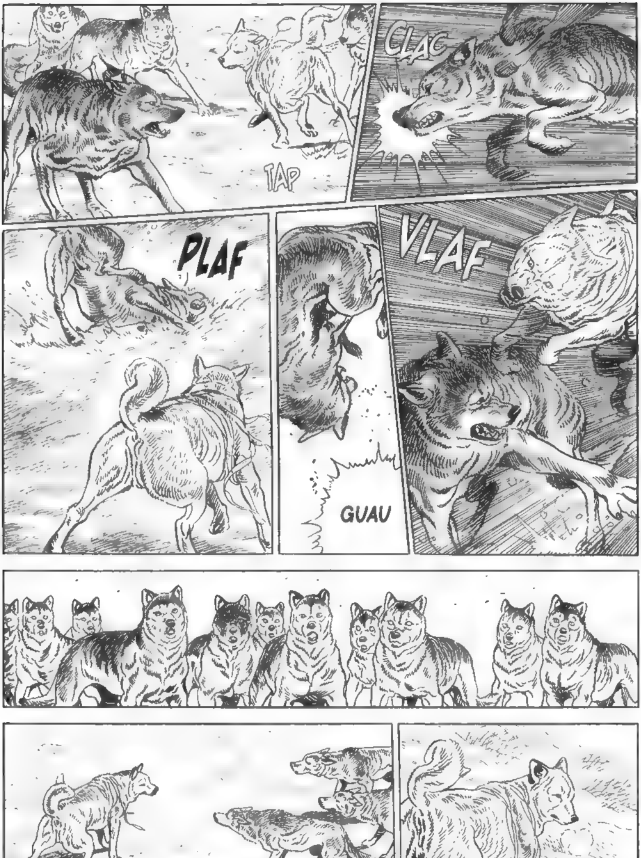
HIS BODY AND MIND RECOVER LOST VIGOR. NOW, HIS INNER COMPASS CHANGES COURSE AND POINTS HIM EAST-SOUTHEAST.
BUT PHYSICAL DESTITUTION STIMULATES HIS INSTINCTS.

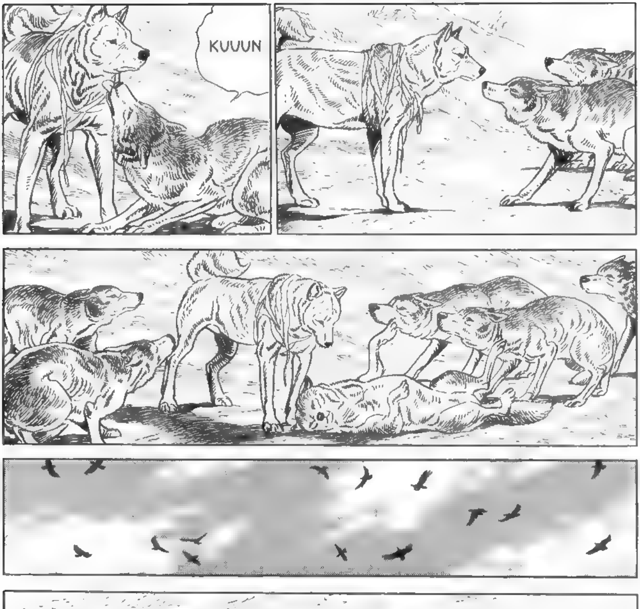
10

THE INSTINCT TO RETURN HOME

BUIGH
TAP
BOM
BUAGH

GRRRRR
GARRR


TAP
CLAC
PLAF
VLAF
GUAU


KUUUN
"PEOPLE TEND TO
MEASURE ANIMAL
INTELLIGENCE
ACCORDINGTO
HUMAN STANDARDS.
BIG MISTAKE -
ANIMALS HAVE AN
INSTINCT, OR 'TALENT
OF NATURE' WHICH,
ONLY IN A NATURAL
ENVIRONMENT DISPLAYS
ALL ITS WONDERFUL POTENTIAL."
- RALPH HELFER

BRITISH COLUMBIA, VANCOUVER, CANADA
WHAT HAPPENED, HELEN?
YES, I KNOW, THANK YOU.
BUT THERE'S SOMETHING I HAVE TO INVESTIGATE IMMEDIATELY.
I GAVE YOU PERMISSION TO TAKE A BREAK. YOU DON'T HAVE TO GO TO THE LABORATORY.
UNIVERSITY OF DULLES S.A.
DEPARTMENT OF ECOLOGICAL SCIENCE,
ZOOLOGY LABORATORY

YES, I KNOW HIM WELL.
YOU CAN GO SEE HAMADA IN A MOMENT.
GOOD.
I HAVE A SAMPLE OF CELLS THAT I'D LIKE TO ANALYZE IN THE MOLECULAR BIOLOGY LAB.
HELEN,
ARE YOU SURE YOU'RE OKAY? YOU'VE BEEN THROUGH A TERRIBLE EXPERIENCE.
THANK YOU, BUT I'M FINE..... I APPRECIATE YOUR CONCERN.
DAVID'S DEATH IS A DISGRACE ....
YOU WERE IN FULL FIELD INVESTIGATION.... IF IT HAD BEEN AN ANIMAL THAT ATTACKED.....
IT'S A REAL HARD BLOW....
...
BEING SHOT.... IT SEEMS INCONCEIVABLY BARBARIC....
IT SEEMS THE TIME OF SEARCHERS WITH SCRUPLES HAS BEEN LEFT BEHIND ..
OF COURSE ...

MOLECULAR BIOLOGY LAB
DEPARTMENT FOR THE INVESTIGATION OF MOLECULAR STRUCTURES.
HOW SURPRISING.
YOU SAY THESE ARE THE MUSCLE CELLS OF A DOG?
...
THE AMOUNT OF MITOCHONDRIA, THE SOURCE OF ENERGY, IS MORE THAN 10 TIMES HIGHER THAN NORMAL.
THIS IS A DISCOVERY OF EXTREME MAGNITUDE.
I REMOVED THEM FROM THE DOG, THERE'S NO ERROR.

BUT WHAT DOES IT ALL MEAN?
AND BOTH THE RIBOSOMES AND THE GOLGI BODIES ARE SUBSTANTITALLY DIFFERENT FROM NORMAL.
IT MEANS....
THAT TAKING INTO ACCOUNT THE MICROSCOPIC STRUCTURE OF THESE CELLS, IT'S POSSIBLY NEW MUSCLE TISSUE CREATED BY SYNTHESIS OF NUCLEIC ACID.
IT COULD ALSO BE THE PRODUCT OF A MUTATION.
IN ANY CASE, AN ANIMAL WITH THIS MUSCLE TISSUE IS EXTREMELY IMPRESSIVE.
WE WILL BE ABLE TO CONFIRM THE MARVEL OF EVOLUTION.
I WOULD LIKE TO INVESTIGATE IT FURTHER.
IT'S ALSO POSSIBLE THIS WAS THE RESULT OF ANIMAL EXPERIMENTATION IN GENETIC ENGINEERING.
...
WHERE IS THE DOG?

OR MAYBE YOU SUSPECT THAT THESE ARE ARTIFICIAL MUSCLE CELLS.
YOU'VE REALLY SEEN THE DOG, HELEN?
WHAT DID IT LOOK LIKE? THE PHYSONOMY, THE SIZE?
...
FOR ME, THIS IS TRULY A NOVELTY.
BUT I HAVE NOTHING ELSE.
IT SEEMED TO BE A NORMAL DOG. A WHITE DOG.
IT LOOKED LIKE A JAPANESE DOG.
FYUUUUUU UUUU

I KNOW THAT NAME...
YES.
YES, THAT...
FAMOUS WORLDWIDE AS ONE OF THE PIONEERS OF GENETIC ENGINEERING, NO?
HE'S THE INVESTIGATOR OF BIOLOGICAL ENGINEERING.
HELEN,
HAVE YOU HEARD FROM DOCTOR RYAPKOVA?
...
HE CAN TELL YOU WHAT IT'S ABOUT. SAFELY.
I WISH WE COULD REQUEST...
AN ANALYSIS OF THE INTERNAL COMPONENTS OF EACH CELL TO KNOW HOW THEY ARRIVED AT THEIR FORM.
THERE WAS AN ARTICLE THAT HE'D BEEN EXILED FROM THE SOVIET UNION TO THE UNITED STATES.
I THINK IT WAS A COUPLE YEARS AGO....
...

FUUUF
DO YOU CARE IF WE JOIN YOU?
TOC!
GLOU
BLANCA, AS IT'S CALLED.
...
WHO ARE YOU?!
WE WANTED TO SPEAK WITH YOU.... A PROPOSAL REGARDING THE DOG.

HA HA...BUT YOU ARE NOT CAPABLE...
...
YOU'VE BEEN TRYING TO KILL IT.
IS THAT TRUE?
...
YOUR OLD OFFICE ....
WE'VE SEEN EVERYTHING.
THE GIRL THAT CROSSED US WHEN WE ENTERED....
HAVE YOU COME TO CUT ME IN OR WHAT? I WOULD LIKE YOU TO WALK WITH ME.
YOU'RE SEARCHING FOR THE WHITE DOG, NO?
AND THAT?
WE KNOW WHAT THEY'RE LOOKING FOR....
AND ALSO WHAT COUNTRY THEY COME FROM.

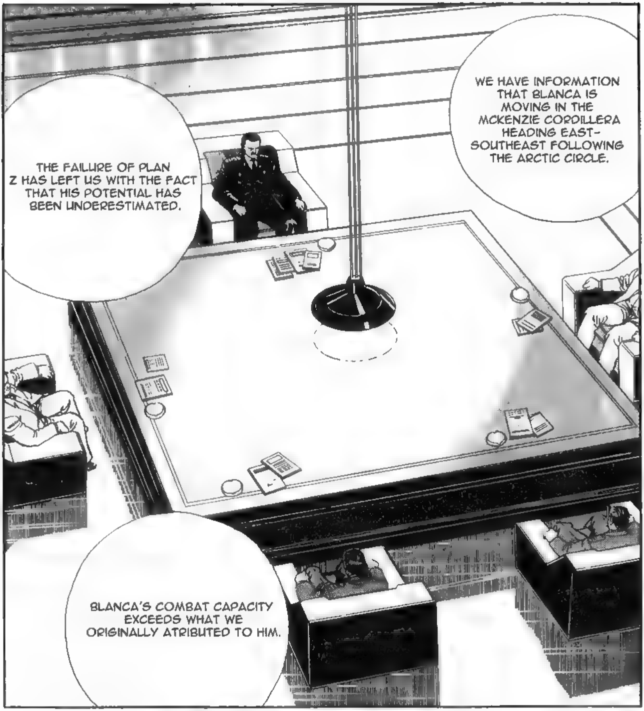
AND WE ARE NOT PRECISELY RATS.
IT'S THE ONLY THING WE WANT TO KNOW.
WHERE IS THAT DOG NOW?
PAF
THEY'RE GONNA DIE!
OH!
THERE IT GOES!
BLAM
SHIBA!

UG
UFFF...
DON'T PISS ME OFF.
IF YOU BELIEVE EVERYTHING HAS A PRICE, YOU'VE MISTAKEN ME FOR A MIDDLEMAN.
STOP! DON'T DO IT, NICK!
IF YOU WANT TO FIGHT, GO OUTSIDE!
QUICK! GET HIM!
YOU CAN TAKE HIM, INUIT!
SHIBA ...
IT'LL BE EASY, NICK!
PLAF
PAF
HOH
HOH
HOH
PAF

PAF
YAH!
BLANG
YAAAAAAH!
PAF

CRASH
HEH HEH ...
VLAF
INUIT SHIT!
OOOUH!
OUH...
AHH.... NO... STOP....
PAF
YOU ASSHOLE!
AAAAH!
GET HIM!
STOP! QUIT!
WHAT A MESS!

THIS IS YAK.
SHIBA.
HOW ARE YOU?
AND YOU ....
OOOOH!
I WILL KILL!
YOU'RE INUITS.... WHAT PART?
NO, I'M JAPANESE.
JAPANESE?
AND, CLARIFY... THAT WAS SOME FAMOUS JUDO, RIGHT?
HAHAHA.... I NEVER REALLY WENT TO CLASSES, BUT....
HAHAHA. TONIGHT I FEEL LUXURIOUS.
I'D LIKE A TASTE.
WE'RE GOING FOR HIM!
TOGETHER!

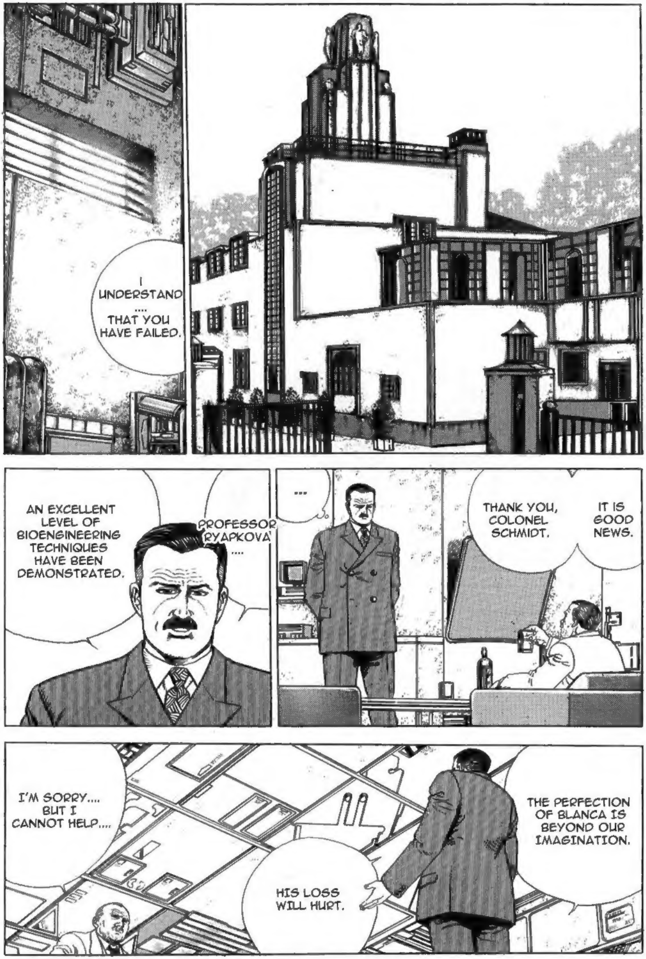

WE HAVE INFORMATION THAT BLANCA IS MOVING IN THE MCKENZIE CORDILLERA HEADING EAST-SOUTHEAST FOLLOWING THE ARCTIC CIRCLE.
THE FAILURE OF PLAN Z HAS LEFT US WITH THE FACT THAT HIS POTENTIAL HAS BEEN UNDERESTIMATED.
BLANCA'S COMBAT CAPACITY EXCEEDS WHAT WE ORIGINALLY ATRIBUTED TO HIM.

IT IS NOW OBVIOUS THAT ELIMINATING BLANCA IS OUR MAXIMUM PRIORITY, AND TO PREVENT THIS INFORMATION FROM GETTING TO WESTERN COUNTIRES.
THEREFORE, THE PLAN THAT WE ARE GOING TO CONSIDER AND DISCUSS WILL BE THE ULTIMATE AND FINAL PLAN.

WE WILL BEGIN ANALYZING THE PREVIOUS PLAN'S FAILURE.
THE MAIN REASON FOR THE FAILURE IS ESTIMATED ....
IT WAS THE SHOOTERS' LACK OF EXPERIENCE AT HUNTING IN THE MOUNTAINS....
IT CAN BE CONSIDERED A PSYCHOLOGICAL DEFEAT.
...
THERE IS NO REASON TO LIMIT THE SPECIAL UNIT OF HANDLERS.
WE DO NOT HAVE TIME TO TRAIN HANDLERS IN SURVIVAL TECHNIQUES.
BUT NEVERTHELESS ....
RESOURCES TO THE STRETEGIC SPECIALS UNIT OF THE COMMAND OF THE ARMY.
WE WILL FORM VARIOUS UNITS AND WILL USE THEM TO FLUSH OUT BLANCA.

...
ALTHOUGH THEY ARE NOT THE SAME CALIBER AS BLANCA.
IF WE ATTACK WITH MORE THAN TEN, WE SHOULD BE ABLE TO HOLD OUR OWN.
WE HAVE OTHER COMBAT DOGS WHO HAVE RECEIVED SPECIAL TRAINING.
WE WILL PARTICIPATE IN THIS MISSION.
BUT, COLONEL ....
EXECUTING A MISSION MOBILIZING UNITS OF THE COMMAND....
THAT IS ....
IT COULD BE COUNTERPRODUCTIVE BECAUSE THAT CLASS OF MOVEMENTS MIGHT RAISE THE SUSPICIONS OF OTHER COUNTRIES....
ARE YOU STILL UNABLE TO GRASP THE GRAVITY OF THIS SITUATION?!
THOSE ISSUES ARE MINUTE COMPARED TO THE PROBLEM WE HAVE ON OUR HANDS.
IF THIS PLAN FAILS LIKE THE PREVIOUS ONES, WE WILL HAVE NO EXIT.
ISN'T KEEPING BLANCA A SECRET OUR MAXIMUM PRIORITY REGARDLESS OF ALL OTHER CONSIDERATIONS?
WE NO LONGER HAVE A MARGIN TO BE METICULOUS.

WE MUST GO AFTER BLANCA WITH ALL MEANS!
IT IS OUR ONLY COMMITMENT!
SEA
Banks Island
North Slope
Inuvik
...
ALASKA
BLANCA IS RUNNING TO THE EAST, FOLLOWING HIS ANIMAL INSTINCT TO RETURN HOME.
HE WILL ARRIVE IN NEW YORK.
TO NEW YORK, SIRS.
I ASSUME NOBODY WILL QUESTION THE RELEVANCE OF LIQUIDATING IT BEFORE THAT HAPPENS.
IT COMES WITH MAXIMUM URGENCY FROM HEADQUARTERS TO THE COMMANDERS OF THE SPECIAL STRATEGIC UNITS!


I UNDERSTAND .... THAT YOU HAVE FAILED.
AN EXCELLENT LEVEL OF BIOENGINEERING TECHNIQUES HAVE BEEN DEMONSTRATED.
PROFESSOR RYAPKOVA ....
...
THANK YOU, COLONEL SCHMIDT.
IT IS GOOD NEWS.
I'M SORRY.... BUT I CANNOT HELP....
THE PERFECTION OF BLANCA IS BEYOND OUR IMAGINATION.
HIS LOSS WILL HURT.

...
IT IS NOT OUR INTENTION TO PUT YOU UNDER ANY OBLIGATION.
WITHOUT A DOUBT.
I THINK I WAS CLEAR IN MY RESPECT.
I JUST WANTED TO TELL YOU....
THAT WE ARE IN A LIMITED SITUATION BECAUSE OF BLANCA.
WE WOULD LIKE TO KNOW IF BLANCA HAS AN ACHILLES HEEL.
NO... NO, THERE'S NOT....
YOU CANNOT KILL IT JUST BY ATTACKING.
WHEN HE IS INJURED, HIS CELLS FIGHT AGAINST THE FOREIGN BODIES THAT PENETRATE HIS WOUNDS. NEW CELLS BEGAN TO FORM THAT ARE MORE RESISTANT, AND HE GROWS STRONGER.

...
BLANCA'S CELLULAR SYSTEM IS CONSTITUTED IN SUCH A WAY THAT IT CHANNELS STIMULATION THROUGH THE BATTLES HE FIGHTS, ABSORBING THE GENERATED ENERGY, STRENGTHENING HIS CELLS AND INCREASING HIS LETHALITY!
BLANCA IS NOT JUST AN ANIMAL GUIDED BY INSTINCT. HE IS ABLE TO CONTROL THE QUALITIES ACQUIRED THROUGH HIS EXPERIENCES IN NATURE.
IT'S ALREADY TOO LATE.
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NOBODY CAN STOP BLANCA.